ACADEMY SEASON REVIEW | KLOPP'S FINAL THOUGHTS | ROLL ON CHAMPIONS LEAGUE 2018/19!



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HOW GREAT WAS KIEV?

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THE 125 SEASON

SO MANY FAB MEMORIES

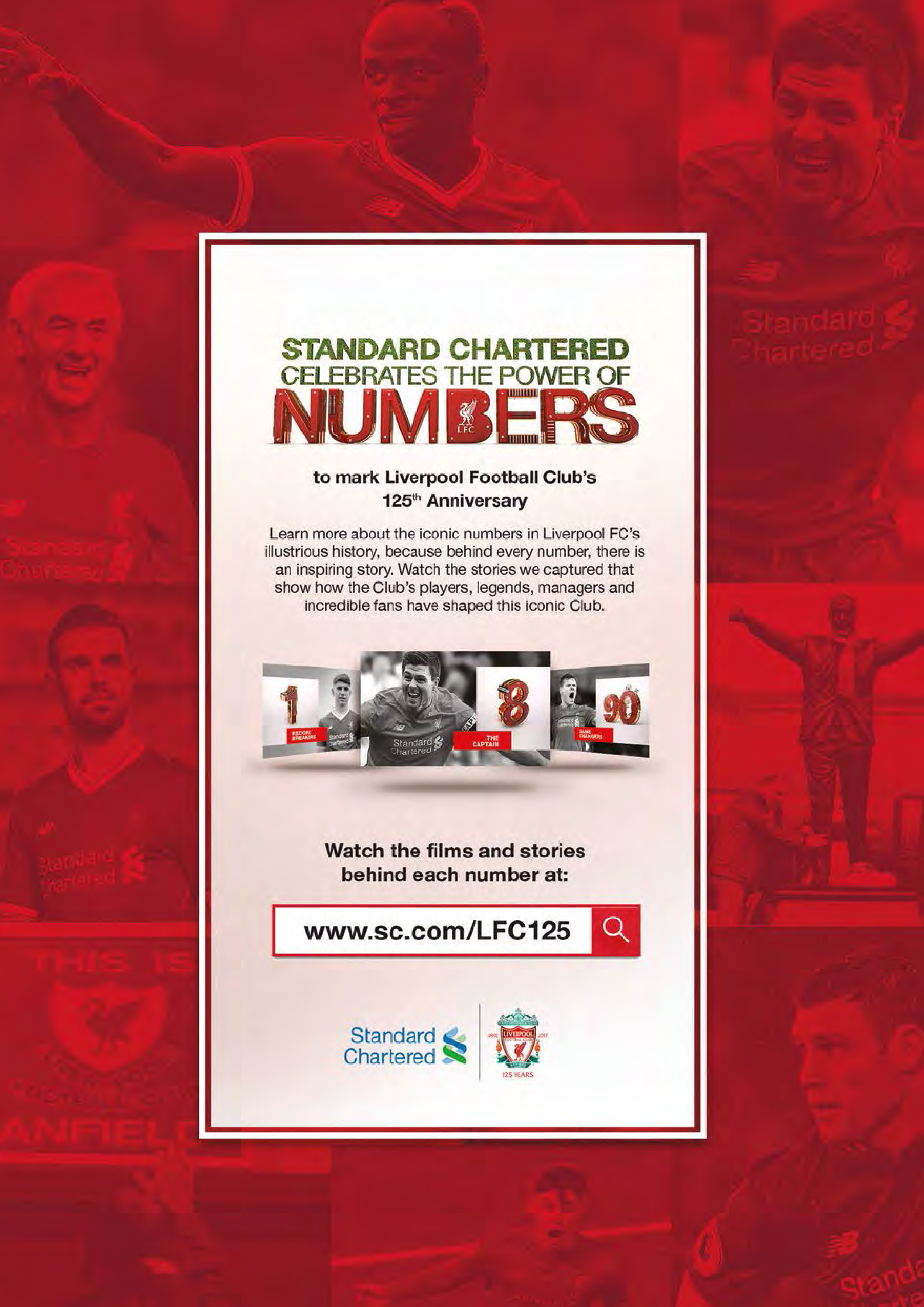
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PLAYER AWARDS

MO AND CO HONOURED

FABINHOOOOOO!

"I am really excited about this move"
Guess what – so are we!



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ISSUE 71 JULY 2018

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The lively front section exploring the wider LFC world and keeping fans up-to-date with what's happening at home and abroad

FOOTBALL

The stuff that happens on the pitch: exclusive interviews with current stars, the stats that matter plus blasts from the past

CLUB

Reaching out to communities at home and abroad, plus Anfield updates and the latest awesome official merchandise



Trinity Mirror Sport Media
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Contributors Dave Ball, Ged Rea **Photography** Press Association, Getty Images, Mirrorpix, Liverpool Echo, John Powell, Andrew Powell, Nicholas Taylor
© Liverpool Football Club & Athletic Grounds Ltd. Published by Sport Media **Managing Director** Steve Hanrahan **Commercial Director** Will Beedles
Senior Executive Art Editor Rick Cooke **Executive Editor** Paul Dove **Marketing & Communications Manager** Claire Brown **Printed by** William Gibbons
Email liverpoolfcmag@trinitymirror.com. To subscribe call **0845 143 0001** or visit **www.sportmediashop.com**



THE BIGGEST STAGE
The city belonged to Liverpool. The stadium, pretty much, belonged to Liverpool. But the Champions League trophy ultimately eluded the Reds, for this year at least. To the left in this shot are the massed ranks of travelling Kopites before kick-off. Throughout the ensuing 90 minutes against Real Madrid, and despite the unforeseen setbacks that transpired, they provided magnificent support once again. The true heroes of Kiev, in our opinion.


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RED ALL OVER
Reporter Barney Ronay wrote in *The Guardian*: "For one sun-drenched afternoon Liverpool's travelling support added a great sweaty replica-shirted smear of red to Kiev's washed-out greens and blues and greys. They came in vans and coaches and cars. Throughout the day they packed Shevchenko Park with a bobbing, burping, chanting mass of sun-flushed flesh and filled the side-street bars with a travel-frazzled sense of Soviet-tinged dolce vita."


WE'VE CONQUERED ALL OF EUROPE
WE'RE NEVER GONNA STOP
FROM PARIS DOWN TO TURKEY
WE'VE WON THE F★★★★★G LOT
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78
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LIVERPOOL WAS
MADE FOR ME
& I WAS MADE
FOR LIVERPOOL
LIVERPOOL FC
LIVERPOOL
FINAL KYIV 2018
YOU'LL NEVER
WALK ALONE
THIS IS ANFIELD
REAL MADRID



OH MANE MANE!
James Milner's outswinging corner is headed towards the Real Madrid goal by the magnificent Dejan Lovren, and Sadio Mane reacts quickest to volley home precisely and make it 1-1 on the night. Cue the loudest roar of the evening from the Liverpool end behind the goal. Hats off to Gareth Bale's subsequent 'worldie', but we all left Kiev with a nagging sense of 'what if...' Only one thing for it: to set our sights on the final in Madrid, of all places, next season and make sure we go one better!


THAT MATTERS
19
5



The Run for the 96, an annual community legacy event, took place recently – but in which Liverpool park do Reds and Blues do their running? **Answer on page 98**

Remembering the 96 plus a football festival happening in the city

LIVERPOOL

KEEP ON RUNNING

Another amazing day as the fourth annual Run For The 96 takes in place in sunshine

A host of famous faces, including ex-Reds players Jamie Carragher, Robbie Fowler, Alan Kennedy plus current club CEO Peter Moore, pulled on their running shoes recently along with around 1,300 football fans, young and old, for the fourth annual Run For The 96 5K in Liverpool's Stanley Park.

The community legacy event, the brainchild of Dom Williams, was first staged back in April 2015 as a positive way to celebrate the 96 who lost their lives at Hillsborough in 1989 and remember the families and survivors who have fought for justice with dignity for 29 years now. Dom developed the idea of Run For The 96 with race organisers BTR Liverpool as a way to engage the wider community to run to honour the 96.

This year the route was changed slightly to include 96 Avenue at Anfield, taking runners past the Eternal Flame. Many participants paused during the run to pay their respects at the memorial.

The route also passed Goodison Park to recognise the support Everton FC has given, while runners donated items at the Fans Supporting Food Banks collection-point.

Carra and co were joined on the start-line by Liverpool City Region metro mayor Steve Rotheram, former Emmerdale actor Kurtis Stacey and original Big Brother winner Craig Phillips. Anfield stadium announcer George Sephton, who has supported the event from the start, returned once again to cheer on runners.

Margaret Aspinall, chair of the Hillsborough Family Support Group (HFSG), walked the 5K course for the second year and commented:

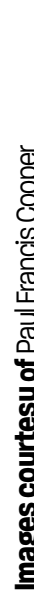
"It's lovely to see people return year after year to show their continued support, and it's so heartwarming to see so many youngsters taking part, as they will help continue the legacy of the 96 in future years."

You'll Never Walk Alone and Everton's *Z Cars* rang out across Stanley Park, and there was a minute's applause from guests, runners and spectators.

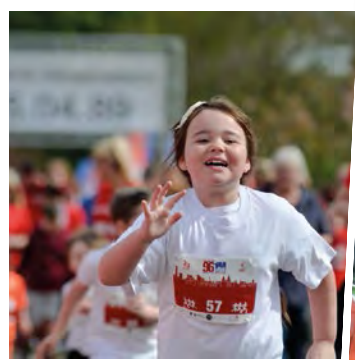
The 5K was followed by a 1 Mile Fun Run for youngsters which was introduced last year.

This year the Run To Remember 96K Relay was also introduced and took place the week before (Sunday 6 May) at the Memorial Gardens To The 96 at Wallasey Town Hall on Seacombe Promenade.

A total of 151 supporters took part during a nine-hour period, covering an incredible 678 miles. Each kilometre was dedicated to one of the 96.


Images courtesy of Paul Francis Cooper






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FOOTBALL FESTIVAL

How, where and when the city of Liverpool is celebrating the beautiful game next month

A summer season showcasing how football unifies people around the globe is being held in the city of Liverpool to coincide with the 2018 FIFA World Cup finals.

Running from Thursday 14 June – the day the tournament kicks off in Russia – until World Cup final day on Sunday 15 July, *The Art of Football* will see three major exhibitions hosted at different locations in the city of Liverpool with LFC featuring prominently.

A display called Common Ground, at the Albert Dock Colonnades, will explore the ritualistic behaviour of fan culture, how the game has changed from its working-class roots and what it means to be a football follower in Liverpool.

Over at Camp & Furnace in the Baltic Triangle, fashion historian Neal Heard has curated *The Art of the Football Shirt* with over 100 vintage and obscure shirts on display including some you'll recognise as being worn by Liverpool FC legends, both for club and country. A piece of work examining the beautiful game through illustrations and graphic art will also be on display at the same venue from 29 June.

If you went to Kiev for the Champions League final you'll have lost count of the number of brilliant homemade LFC banners and flags on display in Shevchenko Park, outside the bars and inside the NSC Olimpiyskiy, and there's every chance you'd love to be in Liverpool on Thursday 14 June.

Last month a project called *Terrace Tapestries*, led by revered Liverpool banner-maker Pete Carney, was held at The Florrie (the beautifully-restored heritage building on Mill Street in Liverpool 8) with artworks for each of the 32 World Cup competing nations being made.

Those banners will be paraded through the city-centre on 14 June to mark the opening of *The Art of Football* season before going on display at National Museum Liverpool's Martin Luther King building, which you'll find at the Albert Dock.

All three exhibitions are free and will be well worth seeing with further details regarding dates and opening times available at **visitliverpool.com**.



WHAT'S


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ON: JUN/ JULY



2018/19 FIXTURES REVEAL

Ready for another rollercoaster with Jürgen and the lads? The Premier League fixture list for the 2018/19 season will be released at 9am on Thursday 14 June.

Which matches will you look for first? Is it still the Merseyside derby? How about the Christmas schedule? Or the games against the two Manchester clubs?

The campaign begins on the weekend of Saturday 11 August 2018 and ends on Sunday 19 May 2019. The list of games will see the Reds renew acquaintances with Wolverhampton Wanderers, who won last season's Championship with ex-Liverpool midfielder Conor Coady playing a key role and return to the top flight after a six-year absence.

Cardiff City will also revisit Anfield after clinching the runners-up berth, aided by the efforts of on-loan Reds midfielder Marko Grujic in the second half of the season. And Liverpool will also face Fulham, helped to promotion by on-loan Reds attacker Sheyi Ojo, following their Play-Off triumph.







LFC'S OPENING-DAY PREMIER LEAGUE RESULTS

Season	Opponent	Venue	Score
2017/18	Watford	(A)	3-3
2016/17	Arsenal	(A)	4-3
2015/16	Stoke City	(A)	1-0
2014/15	Southampton	(H)	2-1
2013/14	Stoke City	(H)	1-1
2012/13	West Brom	(A)	0-3
2011/12	Sunderland	(H)	1-1
2010/11	Arsenal	(H)	1-1
2009/10	Tottenham	(A)	1-2
2008/09	Sunderland	(A)	1-0
2007/08	Aston Villa	(A)	2-1
2006/07	Sheffield United	(A)	1-1
2005/06	Middlesbrough	(A)	0-0
2004/05	Tottenham	(A)	1-1
2003/04	Chelsea	(H)	1-2
2002/03	Aston Villa	(A)	1-0
2001/02	West Ham	(H)	2-1
2000/01	Bradford City	(H)	1-0
1999/00	Sheffield Wed	(A)	2-1
1998/99	Southampton	(A)	2-1
1997/98	Wimbledon	(A)	1-1
1996/97	Middlesbrough	(A)	3-3
1995/96	Sheffield Wed	(H)	1-0
1994/95	Crystal Palace	(A)	6-1
1993/94	Sheffield Wed	(H)	2-0
1992/93	Nott'm Forest	(A)	0-1

WHAT'S ON:





REDS RETURN TO TRAINING!

Members of the Liverpool FC squad who are not on World Cup duty will return to Melwood in early July for the start of pre-season. The club are set to play a couple of local friendlies before heading to the United States for the first game of the International Champions Cup in Charlotte, North Carolina, on Sunday 22 July. The squad will include midfield men Naby Keita and Fabinho who will officially join the Reds on 1 July.

Anniversaries and birthdays



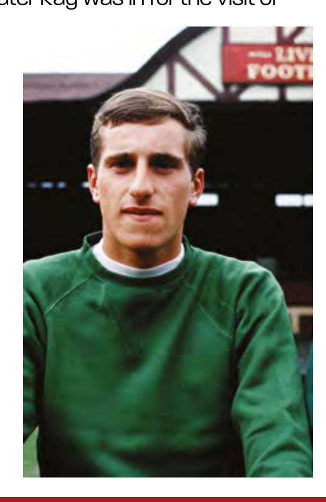
31 years since winger John Barnes joined the Reds from Watford on 9 June 1987

34 years since Graeme Souness left for Sampdoria on 12 June 1984

28 years since Ronny Rosenthal signed permanently on 29 June 1990

It's 51 years since Ray Clemence signed for the club on 24 June 1967 (right). Back then he was still a fresh-faced teenager when manager Bill Shankly brought him to Anfield from Scunthorpe United.

In convincing him to join, Shanks even told the youngster that first-choice keeper Tommy Lawrence was over the hill and he'd be in the team inside six months! In fact Clem had to serve a two-and-a-half year apprenticeship in the reserves. Lawrence's last appearance was in the fateful FA Cup defeat at Watford in February 1970 and seven days later Ray was in for the visit of Derby. He'd established himself firmly as no1 by the end of that 1960/70 season and only missed six matches in the next eleven years as he went on to become one of Liverpool's greatest goalies.



Alan Hansen **63** on 13 June
Gordon Wallace **74** on 13 June
Mohamed Salah **26** on 15 June
Jürgen Klopp **51** on 16 June
Jordan Henderson **28** on 17 June
Jason McAteer **47** on 18 June
Sheyi Ojo **21** on 19 June
Dean Saunders **54** on 21 June



Niamh Charles **19** on 21 June
Loris Karius **25** on 22 June
Danny Ward **25** on 22 June
Luis Garcia **40** on 24 June
Craig Johnston **58** on 25 June
Jamie Redknapp **45** on 25 June
Dejan Lovren **29** on 5 July
Alberto Moreno **26** on 5 July

RESULTS 2017/18

AUGUST

Sat 12	Watford (A)	3-3
Tue 15	Hoffenheim (A) UCL	2-1
Sat 19	**Crystal Palace** (H)	1-0
Wed 23	**Hoffenheim** (H) UCL	4-2
Sun 27	**Arsenal** (H)	4-0

SEPTEMBER

Sat 9	Manchester City (A)	0-5
Wed 13	**Sevilla** (H) UCL	2-2
Sat 16	**Burnley** (H)	1-1
Tue 19	Leicester City (A) CC3	0-2
Sat 23	Leicester City (A)	3-2
Tue 26	Spartak Moscow (A) UCL	1-1

OCTOBER

Sun 1	Newcastle United (A)	1-1
Sat 14	**Manchester United** (H)	0-0
Tue 17	Maribor (A) UCL	7-0
Sun 22	Tottenham Hotspur (A)	1-4
Sat 28	**Huddersfield Town** (H)	3-0

NOVEMBER

Wed 1	**Maribor** (H) UCL	3-0
Sat 4	West Ham United (A)	4-1
Sat 18	**Southampton** (H)	3-0
Tue 21	Sevilla (A) UCL	3-3
Sat 25	**Chelsea** (H)	1-1
Wed 29	Stoke City (A)	3-0

DECEMBER

Sat 2	Brighton (A)	5-1
Wed 6	**Spartak Moscow** (H) UCL	7-0
Sun 10	**Everton** (H)	1-1
Wed 13	**West Brom** (H)	0-0
Sun 17	AFC Bournemouth (A)	4-0
Fri 22	Arsenal (A)	3-3
Tue 26	**Swansea City** (H)	5-0
Sat 30	**Leicester City** (H)	2-1

JANUARY

Mon 1	Burnley (A)	2-1
Fri 5	**Everton** (H, FAC 3)	2-1
Sun 14	**Manchester City** (H)	4-3
Mon 22	Swansea City (A)	0-1
Sat 27	**West Brom** (H, FAC 4)	2-3
Tue 30	Huddersfield Town (A)	3-0

FEBRUARY

Sun 4	**Tottenham** (H)	2-2
Sun 11	Southampton (A)	2-0
Wed 14	Porto (A, UCL Ro16)	5-0
Sat 24	**West Ham United** (H)	4-1

MARCH

Sat 3	**Newcastle United** (H)	2-0
Tue 6	**FC Porto** (H, UCL Ro16)	0-0
Sat 10	Manchester United (A)	1-2
Sat 17	**Watford** (H)	5-0
Sat 31	Crystal Palace (A)	2-1

APRIL

Wed 4	**Man City** (H, UCL q-f 1)	3-0
Sat 7	Everton (A)	0-0
Tue 10	Man City (A, UCL q-f 2)	2-1
Sat 14	**AFC Bournemouth** (H)	3-0
Sat 21	West Brom (A)	2-2
Tue 24	**Roma** (H, UCL sf 1)	5-2
Sat 28	**Stoke City** (H)	0-0

MAY

Wed 2	Roma (A, UCL sf 2)	2-4
Sun 6	Chelsea (A)	0-1
Sun 13	**Brighton & HA** (H)	4-0
Sat 26	Real Madrid (N, UCL final)	1-3

*UCL = UEFA Champions League



Brazilian midfielder Fabinho poses with the famous red shirt after his unveiling. Can you name the last player Liverpool signed from AS Monaco? **Answer page 98**

Fab's thoughts plus interviews with Reds set to take on the world

FOOTBALL

"I want to make history with Liverpool"

Two days after the Champions League final the Reds announced the signing of Brazilian midfielder Fabinho, and here's what he told LFCTV...


L.F.C.
BETVICTOR

Welcome to Liverpool Football Club – how does it feel to have sealed the move?
Thank you. I am very happy. I am really excited about this move. This is something that I always wanted – this is a giant of a team. The infrastructures of the club look exceptional.

I look forward to the time and the day I'll put the shirt on and get on the pitch and see how the supporters welcome my arrival.

Talk us through the past week and how this has happened; your season finished just last weekend...
I knew that this move could happen very quickly. I was hoping that the move would happen fast, too, and I am very happy that the move happened at the beginning of the window.

I'm pleased that I've signed for Liverpool and I was waiting and expecting that everything would go well. I wanted to travel to Liverpool because I wanted to know how things would develop. I wanted to know how things work at this football club and what you need to do in the interviews, so I am very, very pleased with the outcome.

You're 24 and spent five seasons with Monaco – was now the right time to move?
Yes, I believe so. I arrived at Monaco as an unknown player and during the past five years I was able to grow a lot as a football player. The work that I developed there was very good.

I would like to thank the managers and the club for what they did for me, as well as the Monaco supporters and the owners. They developed a lot of things with Monaco because they picked up the team in the second division and were able to take the team to Ligue 1 as well as winning it and going to the Champions League semi-finals.

When I came in, it was during this process and I had to work very hard. I owe everything to them and the belief they placed in me. I arrived as an unknown player and I leave as Fabinho – someone who left history at the football club.

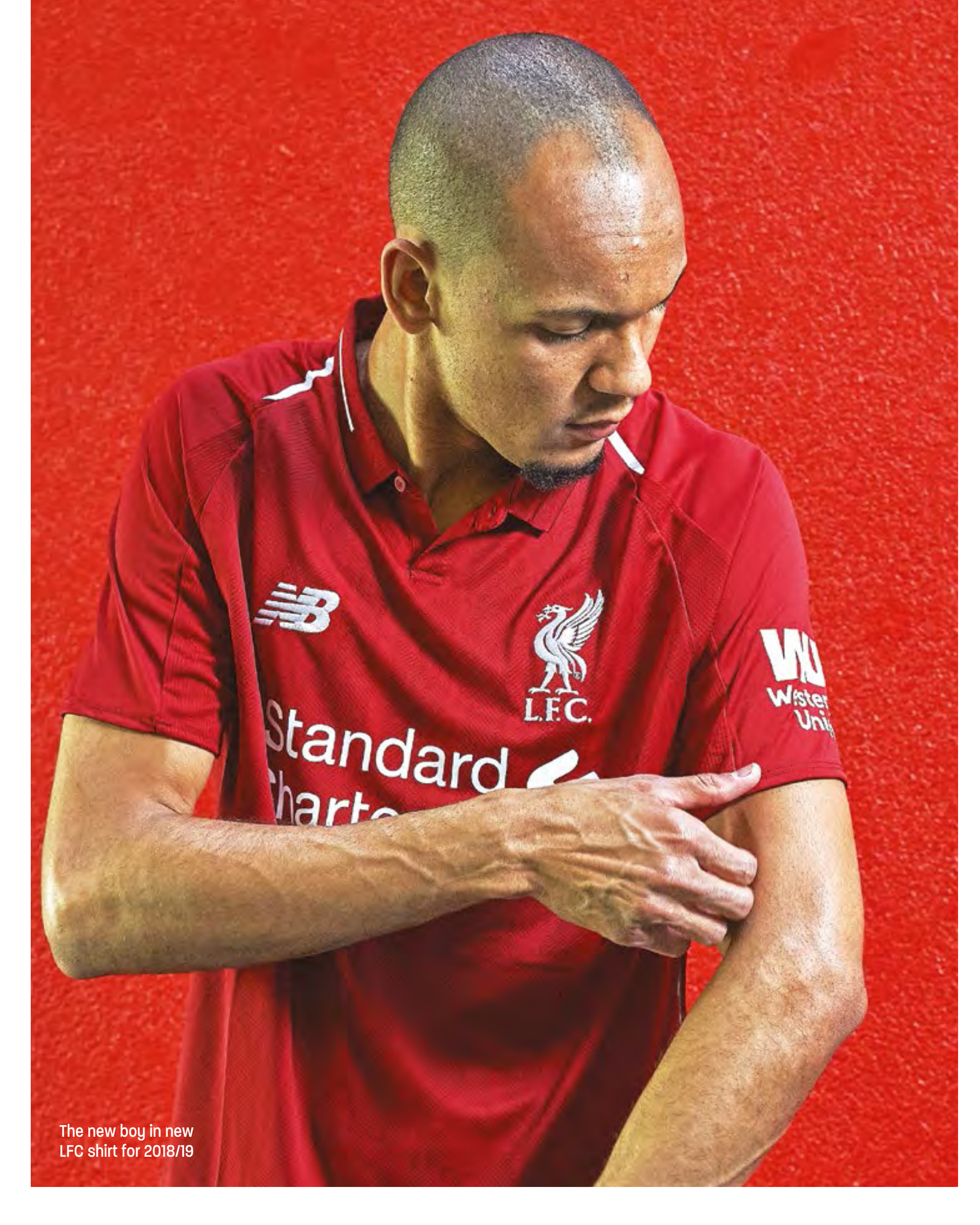
How would you describe your own game?
I believe I am a player that can organise the game well for my team. I play with a lot of intensity and I'm quite strong in man-marking. Unfortunately, occasionally I get some yellow cards for that, but I think that won't be a problem here. Hopefully I will have no difficulty in adapting to this type of football.

I know that the type of football here is quite intense and physical but I think I got some of that while playing in France and I hope I won't find any problems to adapt to this league.

How much have you seen of Liverpool this season?
Yes, I have seen games this season. I find it a very intensive team, very quick. Of course, what shows the most is the speed of the transition – they attack very fast and they make the opposition suffer difficulties.

Whether it is quick play or a counter-attack, they are very fast. They can play one-twos very quickly and for that reason, the forward players show more than the others throughout the season.

I've followed quite a few games and of course, I was interested to find out more about Liverpool. This season, I was able to watch a few games.



The new boy in new LFC shirt for 2018/19

What makes this club so appealing to join?
There are many things. The infrastructure at the club is very good. This was one of the reasons why I chose Liverpool. Also, Liverpool showed a lot of interest in me quite early. That was also very important because I felt the club wanted me to come.

Then, I was able to know a bit more about the city of Liverpool. Unfortunately I wasn't able to meet Liverpool supporters – I have only seen on video or television the way they are. From what I have seen so far, they are fantastic.

Also, other players that played here – they only say good things about Liverpool. What they said to me about when they played at Anfield, it makes me more willing to start playing for this football club. This was a very positive point for me to make my decision. Liverpool are in a league that is probably the best in the world, so there were many positive points for me to choose to come and I am very, very happy to be here.





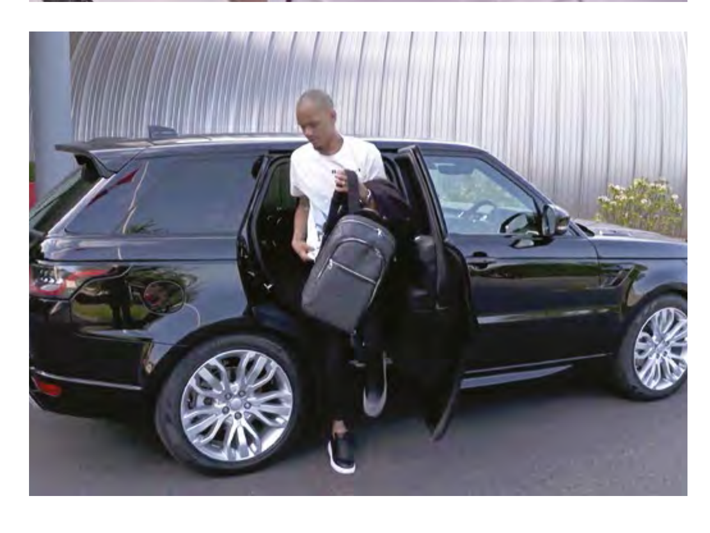


The LFCTV cameras captured Fabinho's arrival to undergo a medical then head to Melwood...











Jürgen Klopp is a manager who improves everybody he works with – where can you get better in the years to come?
The manager has said that he wants to work with great players. I'm still young, so I have a lot to learn in football and with Klopp I will have the chance to carry on growing and to keep learning. Also, he plays a different type of game compared with what I was playing at Monaco.

I don't know very much about his past work but I had the opportunity to speak with some players who have worked with him in the past and they told me that he's a very good manager, so I hope that I will meet him soon and be under his instructions. I will work very hard with him and I'm sure I will improve a lot under his leadership.

> **A FOOTBALL CLUB OF THIS SIZE COMING AFTER MY SERVICES, I DIDN'T HAVE TO THINK THAT MUCH ABOUT SAYING YES**

You'll be teaming up with a compatriot in Roberto Firmino next season – did you speak to him about the move?
Yes, we spoke a bit more about how the city was, about the infrastructure of the football club, and we also spoke about the coaches and how they do their work.

So I was able to know a bit more about Liverpool through Firmino. I had been with him at the Brazilian national team on a few occasions. I know he's a fantastic person, his background is from nice people.

He is also very good for someone who comes to a new country, a new city – someone who speaks the same language. This will of course make the adaptation much easier.

Is his development with Liverpool and this manager something that convinces you it's possible to do the same yourself?
I have not thought about that point. When a football club like Liverpool comes after players, like they did with me, I didn't have to give much thought about it. A football club of this size coming after my services, I didn't think that much about coming over.

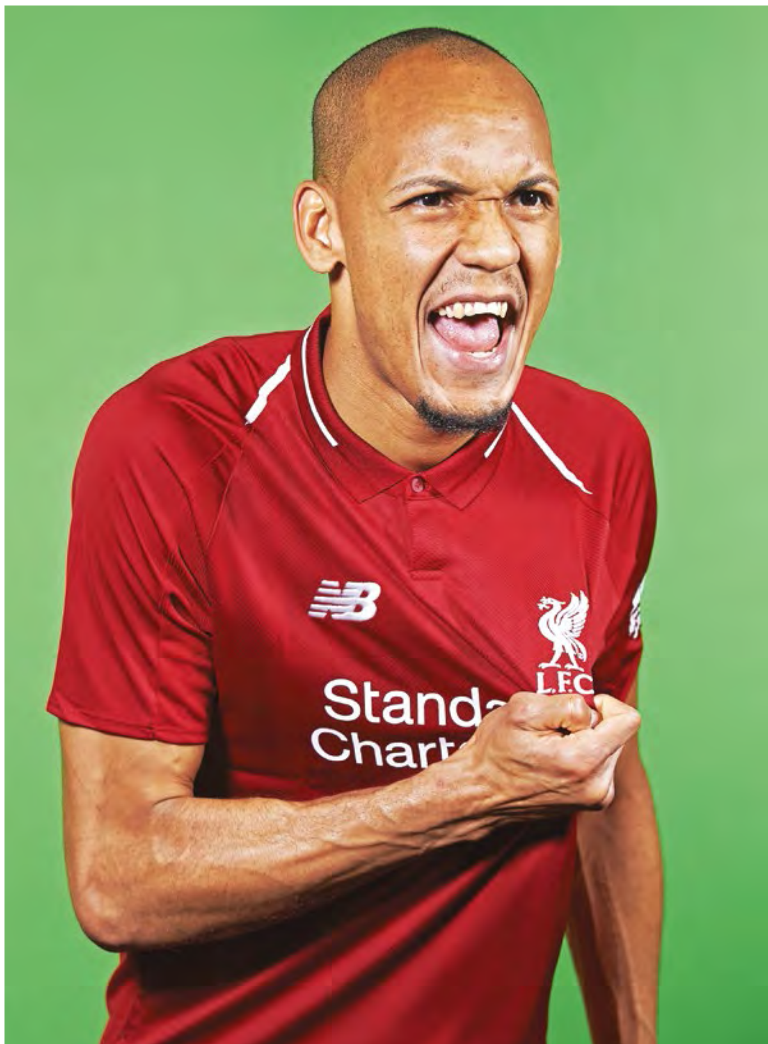
I've been following Liverpool for a few years, in particular since Firmino arrived. After he arrived here, he was able to achieve higher development at this football club. Because he had success, I hope the same happens to me.

Will it be an easy transition because of the amount of time you've already spent in Europe?
I hope so. I hope so.





In Champions League action for Monaco v Man City two years ago



Fabinho's journey so far...

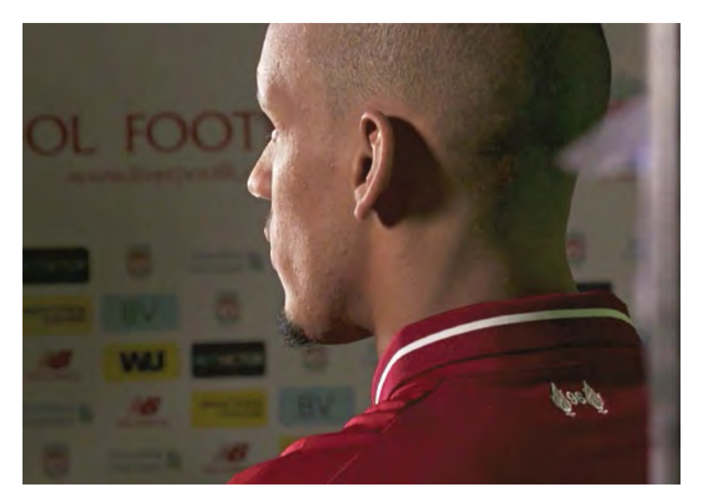
● **His full name is Fabio Henrique Tavares and he was born on 23 October 1993 in Campinas, close to the southeastern coast of Brazil.**

● He began his career with Paulinia FC in nearby Sao Paulo before joining Fluminense. He quickly made the move to Europe signing for Portuguese club Rio Ave before he was loaned to Real Madrid's 'B' side Castilla in 2012/13. He rounded off that season with a senior appearance and assist for *Los Blancos* in a La Liga game after coming on as a substitute against Malaga at the Santiago Bernabeu.

● **In July 2013 he joined an emerging Monaco side, initially with two year-long loans. He became a mainstay of the team, making 131 appearances across his first three seasons, as they challenged Paris Saint-Germain's domestic dominance – and that objective was achieved in stunning fashion in 2016/17. Fabinho played 35 games and scored eight times in Monaco's surge to the summit of Ligue 1, finishing eight points clear of PSG and smashing the 100-goal barrier.**

● That same season the club from the Principality enjoyed a fantastic run to the semi-finals of the UEFA Champions League. After starting in the third qualifying round, they eliminated Manchester City and Borussia Dortmund in the knockout rounds before falling short against Juventus in the semis. Fabinho featured in all but two of the games along the way.

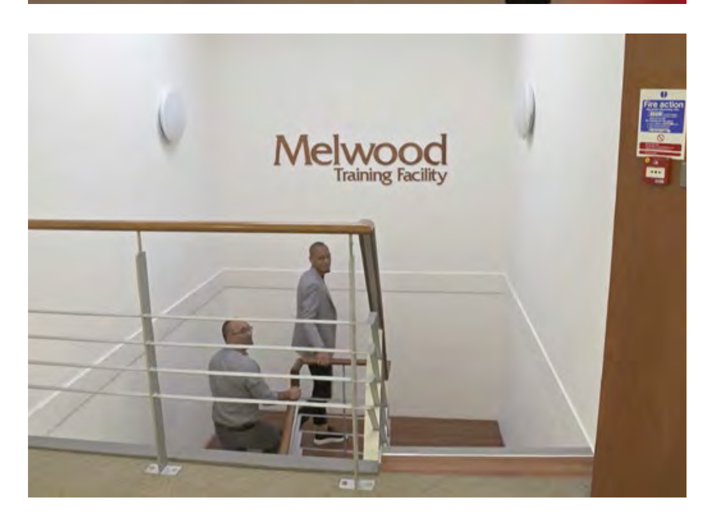




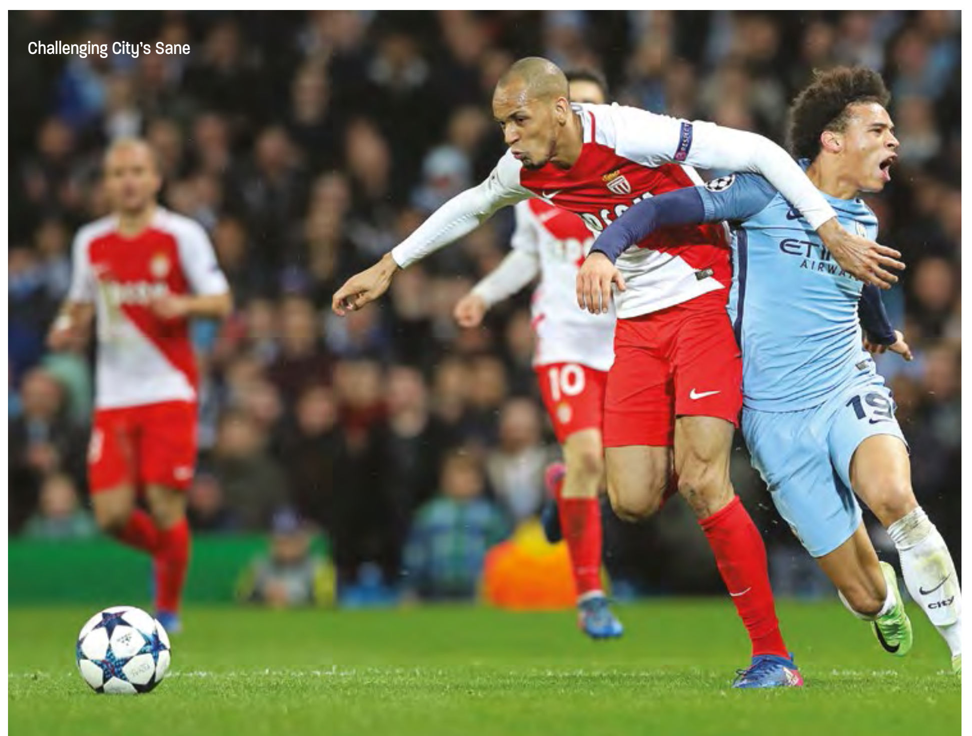


Just time to don the red jersey for a new-signing photo-shoot and speak to LFCTV







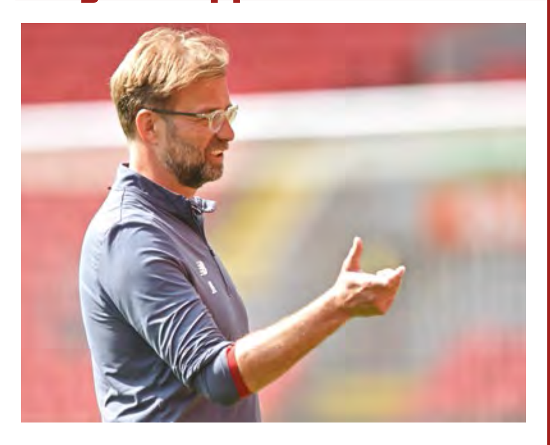

Challenging City's Sane

Club and country

- The 6ft 2in tall midfielder was included in Brazil coach Dunga's 23-man squad for the 2015 Copa America finals in Chile, and made his debut for the *Selecao* in a warm-up match against Mexico on 7 June that year, coming on as a half-time substitute for Danilo at the Allianz Parque in Sao Paulo. He has been capped four times in total for his country, but not since 2016.

- **Last season, he scored eight goals in 46 games in all competitions as AS Monaco finished as runners-up in Ligue 1 under manager Leonardo Jardim. In total he scored 31 goals in 233 appearances during his five years in France.**

Jürgen Klopp on Fabinho



"We have signed a fantastic player, but someone who is an equally fantastic person I think. His reputation as a character in the dressing-room and his attitude in training has come through from everyone we speak to.

"He has a lovely family also. Adding a person like this to our dressing-room only makes us even stronger. What we have, in terms of our environment at Melwood and in the team, means anyone coming in must be of that build. They must be the highest quality person and player.

"He has ability and mentality to play at the highest level in a number of positions. He can play [shirt numbers] 6, 8 and 2. This is cool. He is tactically very strong and football-smart. I think he improves our squad and there aren't that many players you can say that about in this moment, because the quality we have already is so high. I like that he is young yet experienced also, with a high number of games at a club that compete to win. Also, international caps for Brazil tells you something about him.

"This signing gives us new opportunities and for that I am excited. I'm sure our supporters will make him very welcome and at home at our wonderful football club and in our amazing city."

How do you think it will feel to pull on the Liverpool shirt for the first time?

I imagine a lot of things – in particular, coming to the ground and going on the pitch. I have a lot of expectation for that day. I'm quite anxious for that day to come.

There are many things crossing my mind at the moment – how things will happen, what will happen. It will be something new and something I will enjoy. I'm quite anxious waiting for that.

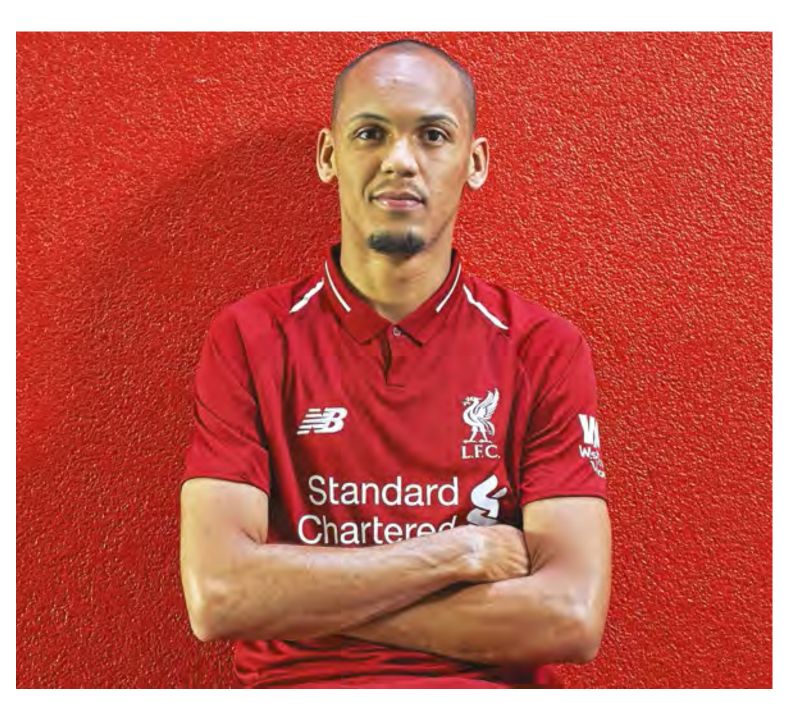
What are your biggest aims for your time with Liverpool?

I came to Liverpool because I wanted to leave Monaco for an ambitious club, a club that plays to win every competition. Liverpool Football Club is one of these teams.

I will try to create my own history at this football club. Hopefully, on a personal level, I'm able to win titles with this club. I will try to grow and learn and improve myself, and to be part of the club's history.

Finally, what is your message to the LFC fans?

My message is that I arrive here to help this football club. I know how big this football club is, so I will give my very best on the pitch to help the team. I hope I will be in a position to be honoured to represent this football club.



NEVER GONNA STOP

What an adventure. What an experience. What better way to recover from the incredible drama, the riveting journey, and the ultimate heartache than to start planning for the Champions League final in Madrid next year!



We lost. Yeah, we lost. And for a while we were definitely a bit devo'ed. But then we picked ourselves up and partied all over again. *Allez Allez Allez*.

For the first time the club was giving its supporters an opportunity to bid for their own piece of LFC history, in a live auction-room setting at Anfield.

There were the mad journeys and ridiculous itineraries. The old-face reunions and the new-recruit euphoria – so many young supporters having the times of their lives. The full-on fan rave at Shevchenko Park organised by the club and BOSS Mag. The bouncing Dua Lipa set before kick-off. And the wonderfully warm city of Kiev whose people embraced us and whose journalists declared that it was the Liverpool fans who brought the whole blockbuster show to life.













One of the hundreds of banners on display summed it up: “If LFC were playing on the moon, we’d find a way to get there.” Even those that couldn’t went to Anfield – 30,000 no less – for a sell-out screening of the match in association with BT Sport.

Did we really get beat? Well, that’s what the record books will show in years to come. Did all that heartbreaking stuff actually happen out there on the pitch? No swerving it, sadly.

Would we go through the whole thing again, with the exact same outcome? In the blink of an eye.

Another three years under Jürgen Klopp with no guarantee of trophies but more of the same pure joy? Oh go on then. But listen, we’re pretty certain there’ll be silverware to show for it next time too.

We are loyal supporters, and we come from Liverpool...






LIVERPOOL FC
YNWA
EUROPEAN
ROYALTY


IN MY LIFE,
I'VE LOVED
THEM ALL
AND NOW WITH
JÜRGEN KLOPP
LIVERPOOL F.C
EUROPEAN
ROYALTY
LIVERPOOL
THE EDEN VALE




Standard
Chartered


KYIV
18






IT'S A BEAUTIFUL THING

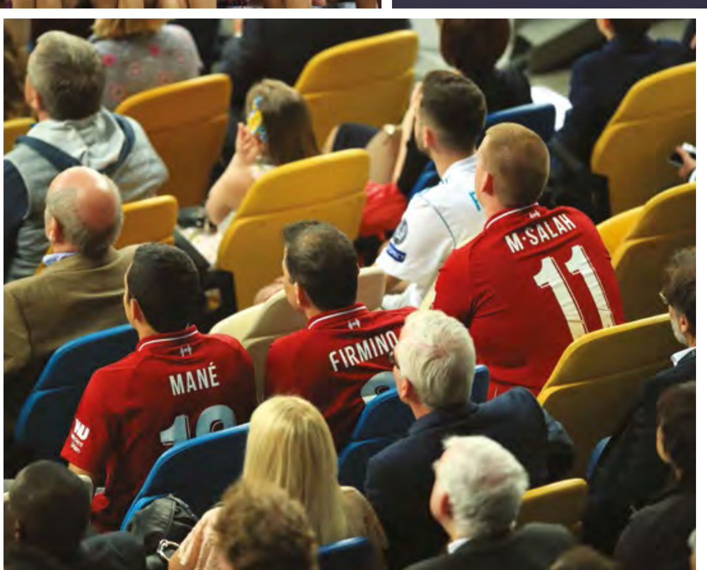

ALLEZ ALLEZ ALLEZ

MILLY DRINKS RIBENA
ROBBO LOVES A RUN
BOBBY DOES THE NO LOOK
KING MO SCORES FOR FUN
ALLEZ ALLEZ ALLEZ
L.F.C.
77 78 81 84 05






MY CHICK IN KIEV


M.SALAH
11
MANÉ
FIRMINO




LIVERPOOL
ALLEZ ALLEZ ALLEZ
CHAMPIONS OF EUROPE 2005
NEVER WALK ALONE




I KNOW I'LL OFTEN STOP
AND THINK ABOUT THEM
IN MY LIFE
I'VE LOVED THEM ALL




WE ARE LIVERPOOL
EUROPEAN ROYALTY



“We tried everything. We had no luck. We move on”

In full: the post-final press-conference with Liverpool manager Jürgen Klopp at the NSC Olimpiyskiy in Kiev

Was Mohamed Salah's first-half injury the key to the game?
First of all, congratulations to Real Madrid... Nobody spoke about them and not to forget they won the Champions League tonight.

Of course it was a big moment in the game. I know if you say something like that after a game you lost, it sounds like you are a little bit of a bad loser. But it was, for me, kind of a harsh challenge; it's like wrestling a little bit and it's unlucky then that Mo fell on his shoulder. It's a serious injury; worse, a really serious injury.

The shock of the boys was obvious. We dropped a little bit too deep and Real tried to use that for positive momentum, until we settled a little bit. It was quite difficult but nil-nil at half-time, we could adjust a few things – defending half-spaces, which we did before that really well, and then playing more football. And then the other decisive moments were the goals; they were quite strange.

That's how it is. We all know the result is 3-1 Real Madrid and that's why we are not in the best mood obviously.

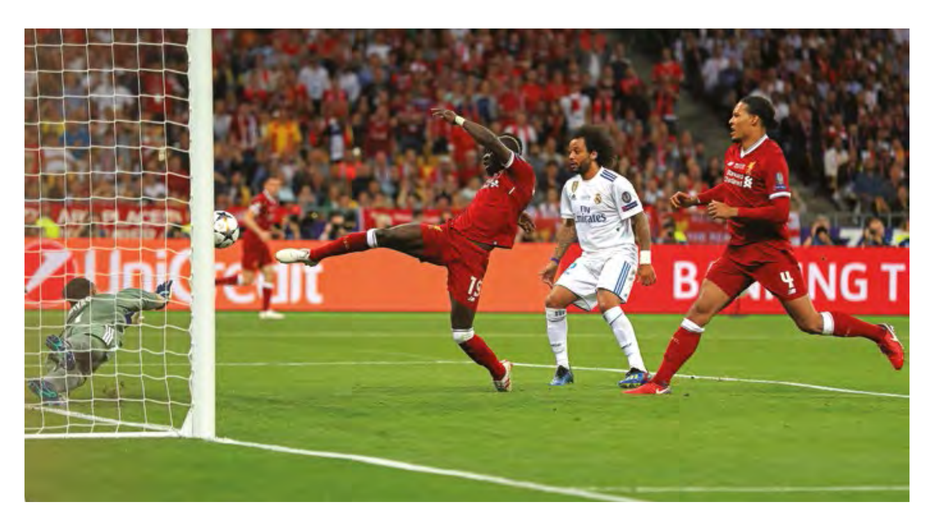
Is the difference that Real Madrid were able to bring on a €100 million player in Gareth Bale?
I'd love to say no, but that's probably not the truth. He was very decisive obviously, especially with the bicycle-kick – it was a fantastic goal, an unbelievable goal which showed off all his skills. They hit the crossbar as well and had one or two big counter-attacks, but we hit the post as well and [our] set-pieces that were absolutely okay.

The difference is that you need a little bit of luck in a football game, especially a final, and we not only had no luck – we had none plus bad luck. That's the problem.

In life you always have to accept that, we do that, and we will carry on. But in the moment we see all the situations and think: wow, how did that all happen tonight? But the game is over and whatever I could say, the result will not change.

Almost everything that could have gone wrong did go wrong for Liverpool. Was the Salah injury the key?
Of course. It's very bad for Mo, very bad for us and very bad for Egypt. That's part of the sport. I don't like that part of the sport but it's part of the sport and things like this can happen.

I don't know what would have happened if Mo could have played on, we will never know that. But I think everybody saw in the first half that we were the opponent probably everybody would have expected. We played good football, we switched



sides, we kept the ball, we had direction, we created chances, we pressed them high in good moments with good timing, all those things. But we lost 3-1 and so I don't think in ten years anybody will speak about how we lost. That's what happened tonight.

Did you play against the commercial might of the game this evening or was it just two good teams going up against each other?
It was a football game. We buy players, we sell players, we do exactly the same as Real Madrid, only maybe a little bit different opportunities, but I'm fine with our opportunities.

I really think – and it's not a problem because nobody talks about it anymore – but if things would have been not that bad for us tonight, we could have won the game. That's how it is. We were there, we were here, we did the things we are good in and, if they all stay on the pitch, we don't make these kinds of mistakes. It's all 'if' – then we can win the game. But now, things went how they went and we have to accept that. That's all.

Have you had chance to talk to Loris Karius...
I have had only very, very few words after the game but it's nothing to talk about. I really feel for him, nobody wants that, [but] that's the situation. The mistakes were obvious, we don't have to talk about that, it's all clear. He knows it, I know it, you all know it.

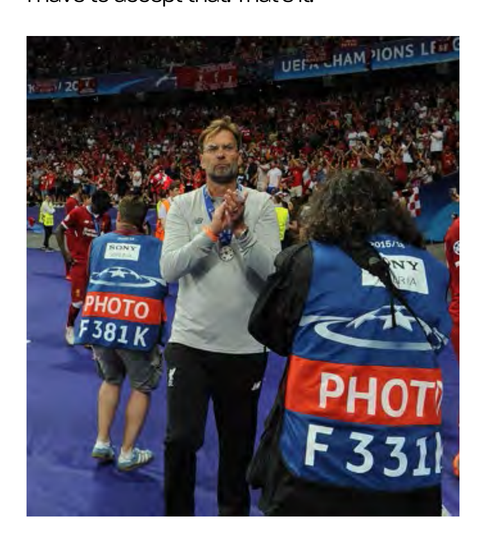
Now he has to deal with it, we have to deal with it, we will do that – of course we will be with him, there's no doubt about that. It was not his night, obviously.

If you had the chance to change something in your preparation for the game, would you?
I like this question! No.

On a personal level, how are you feeling after this game?
I'm not fine. In fact, I'm the opposite of fine, but I try to be professional. I said it a few times, I'm turning 51 [in June] so I have lost games in my life before, I won games in my life before – I know how to deal with that. What you cannot avoid is the feeling you have the night after the game. We all feel really, really bad, and the way home will not be the best trip we ever had in our life but we have to accept it now.

We wanted everything and got nothing, or minus something with the injury of Mo. He didn't play the final, we lost a very important player and probably Egypt lost a very important player. I still hope it's not like this, I have no idea [what] it is exactly, but all the medical department, what they said so far, it doesn't look really good.

At the end, it's a football game. We tried everything to win it – that's why I wouldn't change anything in my preparations. I did the best I could and it was not good enough and I have to accept that. That's it.




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WORLD CUP REDS
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LIVERPOOL
FOOTBALL CLUB
EST 1892
The complete Liverpool FC fan guide to getting the most from the summer's big tournament
RUSSIA 2018

Liverpool players at World Cup 2018? There's a catchy tune for that...

"We've got Salah (do de do de do do), oh Mane Mane (do de do de do do) and Bobby Firmino, plus Trent, Lovren, Grujic, Migs and Hendo..."

Wherever did we get that idea from? But all Kevin Murphy-inspired jesting aside, the Reds have got eight players heading to the World Cup finals and if it wasn't for injuries to Adam Lallana (on standby for England), Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain, Joe Gomez and Emre Can, you suspect there would have been 12 Redmen in Russia this summer.

Who will they be playing against and when? You've turned to the right page. And it all starts for the Liverpool FC contingent on Friday 15 June with a clash of two huge Anfield favourites from past and present in Ekaterinburg...



Sadio in Senegal colours

"I'm so excited!"

Liverpool forward Sadio Mane on the buzz ahead of Senegal's World Cup campaign

How do you feel about representing your country at the World Cup finals?
It will be a big moment, one of the big dreams I had a long time ago. Since I was a child it was a dream of mine to play in the World Cup, so now I have a chance to play it. I am very excited to play in it for my country.

You've drawn Poland, Colombia and Japan in your group...
It was always going to be a tough draw because every team deserves to be at the finals and has worked hard to qualify. I think qualifying for the World Cup is the aim for each player in every country so I was very happy to help the team to do it. We will just do everything we can to get through the group and qualify for the next round.

What is your favourite memory of watching a World Cup?
I was young but I never missed a Senegal game in the 2002 World Cup. I will never forget that World Cup tournament because it was where everything started for me. It inspired me to love football more and to become a football player.

El-Hadji Diouf was my hero. He was doing a great job for the national team and absolutely everybody loved him back home in Senegal – so I did too. That World Cup was very important for me, it was the best!

What was it like playing football in Senegal as a child?
I grew up in a small village, in my mum's house, and the focus was more on school than anything else but in my mind I wanted to be a football player. No-one in my family before was a player so I went to school and it was a strange concept for them that I wanted to become a football player, especially when you live in a small village.

They probably wondered how it could be even possible, but in my mind I only wanted to be a football player, never anything else. They wanted me to study and become a teacher in a school maybe, but my mind was set on becoming a football player so I followed my dream.

What's the best goal you have seen at a World Cup finals?
It was the one by the Holland left-back, Giovanni van Bronckhorst at the 2010 World Cup against Uruguay. He shot from a long, long way out and it flew into the top corner! Until now I haven't see a goal better than that. It is the greatest goal I have ever seen at the World Cup.

SADIO MANE



THURSDAY 14 JUNE

Group A
Russia v Saudi Arabia
(4pm) ITV

World Cup 2018 kicks off in Moscow as Russia take on Saudi Arabia. There's no LFC involvement today but didn't we used to have a striker from that part of the world – 'Rush-Ian'?

MO SALAH



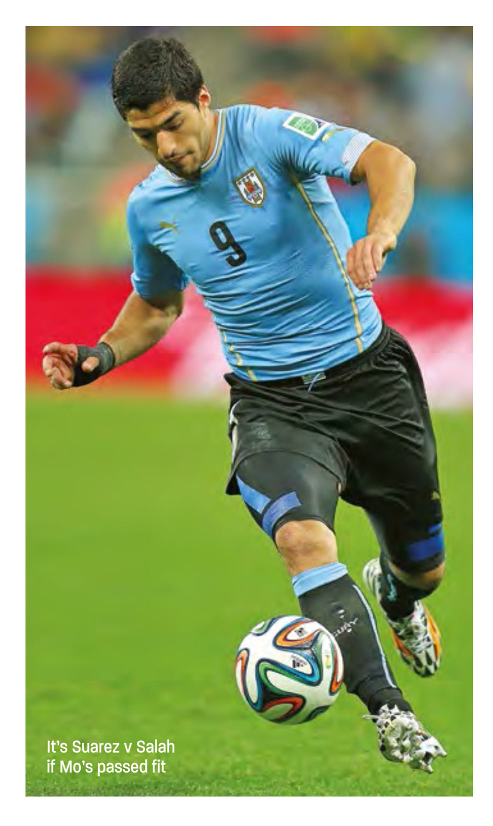
"We're football-crazy in Egypt"

Goal-machine Mohamed Salah on what this summer means for his nation

Everyone knows the huge adoration of Egyptians for football – what is the secret behind this?
I think it is the main sport around the world, so the whole world loves this sport. But generally, if you see our celebrations when we Egyptians take part in the World Cup or when we win the Africa Cup of Nations or other [cups], everyone loves football and we see people support you in that manner, which is a good thing.

Is that great love of football what made you move towards that sport?
Definitely. Since I was small, all children generally who play a sport love football. I see that people's love for football makes children like it since their early days. They grow up watching their parents watching football, their friends, their family, everyone, so that child will dream to become a footballer. I think this is one of the reasons.

You scored an injury-time penalty winner against Congo to clinch qualification with a game to spare...
I knew one month before that game that I was going to shoot it if there was a penalty. I prepared myself that if there was a penalty, I would shoot it like that. Of course, I did not know that when the penalty came, it was going to be after 94 minutes, but it was still in my mind that I had taken the decision to say I will shoot it like that and I would not change my mind. I managed to shoot it well and it was the most important penalty of my career.


It's Suarez v Salah if Mo's passed fit

Has that goal changed your life?
I wouldn't say it is going to change my life but it is still something huge when you qualify for the World Cup after 28 years. You know it is special, a special moment in my career.

FRIDAY 15 JUNE

Group A
Egypt v Uruguay
(1pm) BBC

Group B
Morocco v Iran
(4pm) ITV

Portugal v Spain
(7pm) BBC

Mo Salah v Luis Suarez. 126 Liverpool goals between them and they go head-to-head on day two of the World Cup – if Mo is fit. Unmissable. But have you booked the afternoon off yet? Ex-Spanish Reds Pepe Reina and Iago Aspas are in the Spain squad for a tasty Iberian derby with European champions Portugal today too. *Guapa!*


Griezemann's in Group C

SATURDAY 16 JUNE

Group C
France v Australia
(11am) BBC

Peru v Denmark
(5pm) BBC

Group D
Argentina v Iceland
(2pm) ITV

Croatia v Nigeria
(8pm) ITV

Four World Cup consecutive games on a Saturday? Cancel. All. Plans. And while you're getting square eyes in front of the TV, Dejan Lovren will be wearing red-and-white squares on his Croatia shirt as they take on Nigeria. Strewth be told, former LFC keeper Brad Jones could be in for a busy morning against France if Antoine Griezmann and co are in the mood.

SUNDAY 17 JUNE

Group E
Costa Rica v Serbia
(1pm) ITV

Brazil v Switzerland
(7pm) ITV

Group F
Germany v Mexico
(4pm) BBC

Brazil are the only nation to have played in every World Cup finals and they've won it a record five times, although not since 2002. Can Roberto Firmino inspire the Samba stars to a sixth success? Our number nine will be doing his thing against Switzerland today – one not to look away from – while Marko Grujic and Serbia get their tournament underway against Costa Rica.



Bobby celebrates his Anfield goal v Croatia

ROBERTO FIRMINO

"I've dreamt of playing in a World Cup finals"

Reds ace Roberto Firmino on the tournament that means everything to his country, and their chances this time



How do you see yourself right now in the Brazil national team?
I was just aiming to work hard here at my club and give my all, first and foremost, so that I'll get called up. I'm relaxed, I'm a chilled-out kind of guy, and I'm waiting for my chance. Right now Gabriel [Jesus] is first choice, and I really respect Tite, the boss, but when I'm called upon I'm ready to give my all.

Gabriel is a top player and he's been playing really well in the national team. He did really well for the team in the qualifiers in every game, but I'm in great form and I'm ready to play when called upon.

Tell us about your childhood memories of World Cups...
Well back in 1994 I was only three so I don't remember a lot, neither do I remember a lot from 1998. But in 2002 [in Japan and South Korea] I really experienced it. I'd be out on the street and I'd be getting up early to watch the games. It was the World Cup win which made Brazil five-time winners and I really got into the national team then and started to dream about playing [in the World Cup] myself.

So you dreamt of playing in the World Cup – how did the dream end?
As a World Cup winner!

But as a child you dreamt of going to a World Cup?
Yes, and since then my hopes of this happening have grown and the dream is becoming a reality with hard work and taking things slowly.

If you take yourself back to how you felt about the 2002 World Cup as a kid, how are you feeling now with the World Cup on the horizon?
I had to wait until the final list of players was drawn up, but now we think about things and focus completely on the World Cup in Russia. I have the opportunity to go and it makes me really happy. I am really grateful and I'll try to give my best, along with my team-mates, to represent our country.

What does Tite represent to the Brazilian national team?
He's a coach I feel honoured to have met and he's doing a good job with the national team. He's managed to qualify Brazil for the World Cup thanks to his hard work and the team's too. To me, he's an excellent coach. I listen to his guidance and it's great to be playing under him. He's always upbeat and he gives the group confidence. The squad has been doing what he asks and we've won games.

People describe Neymar as the 'golden boy' of this generation...
Neymar's a star and very soon he's going to be among the best in the world, challenging for the Ballon d'Or, for sure. With the national team, he's Neymar! He's always upbeat, he's a star player, and he always gives his best.

How would you describe your relationship with Philippe Coutinho?
As I've said before, Coutinho knows what you're going to do before he receives the ball. At Liverpool they called him a magician and it was great to play with a player like him. Off the pitch, too, he's a friend I'll have for the rest of my life.

What is your best memory of a World Cup you've watched?
I think the one I followed most was in 2002. It was incredible that Brazil won for the fifth time, playing against Germany in the final. I watched all the games, not just those involving Brazil, but all the teams. It was very exciting to see Brazil crowned as champions.

And finally, the best World Cup goal that you've seen?
That one by Ronaldinho against England in the 2002 quarter-finals.

SIMON MIGNOLET



"I'm always happy to defend my country"

Liverpool goalkeeper Simon Mignolet hopes for plenty of game-time with an impressive Belgium squad

Belgium qualified for the World Cup finals in fine style, going unbeaten in their ten matches to top Group H.

Liverpool goalkeeper Simon Mignolet was mainly a back-up to Chelsea's Thibaut Courtois but he won his 20th cap in a November friendly against Japan, which ended as a 1-0 win.

The Reds' no22 took to Instagram afterwards to say: "Very proud to get my 20th cap for Belgium tonight. Good to get a win and a clean-sheet to top it off. Thanks to all the fans for being there."

Mignolet kept another clean-sheet in the Red Devils' friendly win over Saudi Arabia in March, adding: "A big win. Always happy to defend my country."

Belgium kick off their campaign against Panama in Sochi on 18 June, three hours before England get underway versus Tunisia. Roberto Martinez's men then take on the team from North Africa in Moscow on 23 June before a match against the Three Lions in the final group game on 28 June.



Group G's Panama in friendly action v Ben Woodburn's Wales

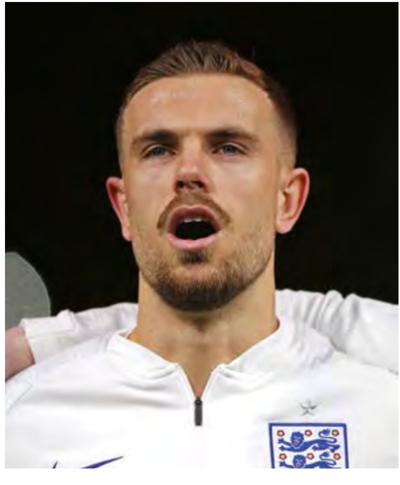
MONDAY 18 JUNE

Group F
Sweden v South Korea
(1pm) ITV

Group G
Belgium v Panama
(4pm) BBC

Tunisia v England
(7pm) BBC

It's been so many years of hurt for England they don't even have a World Cup song, but with Jordan Henderson calling the tune v Tunisia and Trent Alexander-Arnold ready to make his tournament debut, maybe they'll surprise a few critics. Simon Mignolet will hoping World Cup new boys Panama don't surprise Belgium.



TUESDAY 19 JUNE

Group H
Colombia v Japan
(1pm) BBC

Poland v Senegal
(4pm) ITV

Group A
Russia v Egypt
(7pm) BBC

Sadio Mane's dream of playing in a World Cup comes true today as Senegal kick off their campaign against Poland in Moscow while the Egyptian King will be in St Petersburg as the Pharaohs try to overturn hosts Russia. Could Sadio and Mo both score World Cup goals on the same day? Don't bet against it...

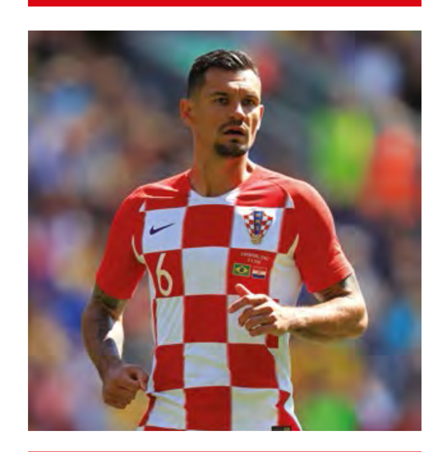
WEDNESDAY 20 JUNE

Group B
Portugal v Morocco
(1pm) BBC

Iran v Spain
(7pm) ITV

Group A
Uruguay v Saudi Arabia
(4pm) BBC

Still can't get enough of Luis Suarez? You'll want to be watching Uruguay v Saudi Arabia at 4pm then. El Pistolero will fancy his chances agains the Saudis. Ten years ago loads of Liverpudlians followed Spain at Euro 2008 – mainly because of Xabi Alonso, Fernando Torres, Alvaro Arbeloa and Pepe Reina – so if you've still got a Spanish soft spot (and we have) they play Iran at 7pm.



THURSDAY 21 JUNE

Group C
Denmark v Australia
(1pm) ITV

France v Peru
(4pm) ITV

Group D
Argentina v Croatia
(7pm)

The World Cup is a week old today so if you're feeling football-fatigued and need an afternoon off to tend to other less all-consuming things, like school/work/the kids, then the good news is no Liverpool players are in action until Dejan Lovren at 7pm. The bad news for Dejan is he'll be facing Lionel Messi, but at least this legendary Argentine no10 only uses his feet!

DEJAN LOVREN



"Our squad is at its peak"

Reds central defender Dejan Lovren insists that Croatia can overcome the odds in their tough-looking group

LFC centre-back Dejan Lovren is hoping Croatia's considerable talent pool can cause an upset or two in Russia.

The defender, who will turn 29 the day before the quarter-finals, was a member of the squad that went out at the group stage in Brazil four years ago, finishing behind the host nation and Mexico. This time around they will come up against Argentina and Lionel Messi, Iceland and Nigeria in another tough-looking group.

Having finished as runners-up to Iceland in their qualification group, Croatia successfully negotiated a play-off against Greece back in November with Lovren picking up his 36th and 37th caps for his country.

The first leg saw Croatia secure a healthy 4-1 advantage in front of a 30,000 crowd in Zagreb before they completed their task with a goalless draw in a pressure-cooker atmosphere at the Karaiskakis Stadium over in Piraeus.

"Of course everyone had said that it would be difficult for us and Greece is a really good defensive team but, you know, we showed our defensive quality until the end. It was really difficult. The atmosphere was really quite interesting there!

"They had a couple of chances but nothing too major. We really defended quite well – everyone from front to back.

"We managed because we are also in the peak of our best time now. When you see the ages of the players in the squad, I think that it's a really good balance and the best time for everyone.

"We have a really good squad with young talents, then those players like me who are already seven or eight years there with the national team, and then you have the even more experienced ones like Luka Modric, Ivan Rakitic, Vedran Corluka, Ivan Perisic, Mario Mandzukic... These are the players who you need at this moment so it's a good mix."

Croatia will kick off their campaign against Nigeria in Kaliningrad on Saturday 16 June. "It is one of the hardest groups we could have had," admits Dejan. "I think everyone agrees with that, you cannot lie. Argentina is one of the best attacking teams in the world especially when [Lionel] Messi is in the team and then you have [Angel] Di Maria, [Gonzalo] Higuain, [Paulo] Dybala and [Sergio] Aguero. I mean, come on!

"But this is the interesting thing because where you can compare teams, it's easy to say: 'Oh yes, on paper they are the favourites'. But, of course, out on the pitch it is different.

"I want to enjoy a big success with my national team because we have a really good, talented group with so many good players playing for strong clubs all around the world and we need to use that.

"Hopefully every player will finish his season well with their clubs and then we will see what we can achieve."

FRIDAY 22 JUNE

Group E
Brazil v Costa Rica
(1pm) ITV

Serbia v Switzerland
(7pm) BBC

Group D
Nigeria v Iceland
(4pm) BBC

Brazil v Costa Rica sounds like a South American country versus a Central American coffee shop and you can bet Bobby Firmino and co will want to espresso themselves in St Petersburg. Marko Grujic got into the Serbia squad after a great loan spell at Cardiff so it'll be good to see him face Switzerland, whose national flag is a big plus. And you thought the jokes would get better.



Serbia's Marko Grujic celebrating a goal for Cardiff last season

MARKO GRUJIC

"We're starting to believe again"

Marko Grujic on the return of Serbia's self-belief under a new head coach

Expectations may be low-key in Serbia ahead of this summer's World Cup but the experience in Russia is set to be a big one for Reds midfielder Marko Grujic.

After helping Cardiff City to promotion back to the Premier League during an impressive loan-spell in the Welsh capital, the 22-year-old has been named in the Serbia squad by manager Mladen Krstajic.

Grujic has been receiving extra exposure back home ever since his first call-up to the full national team in May 2016 five months after he'd agreed to join Liverpool from Red Star Belgrade. Having previously represented his country at several youth-levels, he looks to have a long international career ahead of him and has now been capped six times by his country, including twice this year.

Following a disappointing qualifying campaign for Euro 2016, experienced coach Slavoljub Muslin was appointed Serbia boss in early May and immediately handed a call-up to Grujic.

Muslin guided Serbia to World Cup qualification but was surprisingly sacked soon afterwards to be replaced by his assistant, the 44-year-old Krstajic.

"There is a new coach with new expectations...everything is new," says Marko. "We haven't played well during the past four to eight years and have skipped the major tournaments like the Euros and the World Cup which is why people stopped believing in the country's national team. But now I can feel that the feeling is coming back among the fans and the people of Serbia.

"I have been in many selections of the younger players. We won the Under-20s World Cup in New Zealand in 2015 and some players from that team have moved up to the senior team now and, of course, we have a mix of young players and older guys. I'm not sure what the problem had been in the past few years but we knew that if we could show our qualities, we would have a good chance of going to the World Cup in Russia."

Serbia lost only once in qualifying for the finals where they will face the mighty Brazil, plus Costa Rica and Switzerland in the group stages.

"We qualified for a major tournament for the first time in eight years so it was a big achievement for us," continues Grujic. "The previous manager [Muslin] had said he would bring some players from the Under-21s squad to the World Cup and we knew everyone could be selected for the World Cup.

"When I was a kid, every young player was dreaming about playing in the World Cup with the national team. So after we qualified, I was determined to fight and do whatever I needed to do to give myself a chance to be in that squad."

SATURDAY 23 JUNE

Group G
Belgium v Tunisia
(1pm) BBC

Group F
South Korea v Mexico
(4pm) ITV

Germany v Sweden
(7pm) ITV

Of the 12 Liverpool players who went to World Cup 2012 in Brazil, Simon Mignolet was the only one not to make an appearance, being an unused substitute as Belgium reached the last eight.

Hopefully our Belgian goalie will feature in Russia although given Belgium are nicknamed the Red Devils and are managed by ex-Everton boss Roberto Martinez they're hard for Kopites to support!

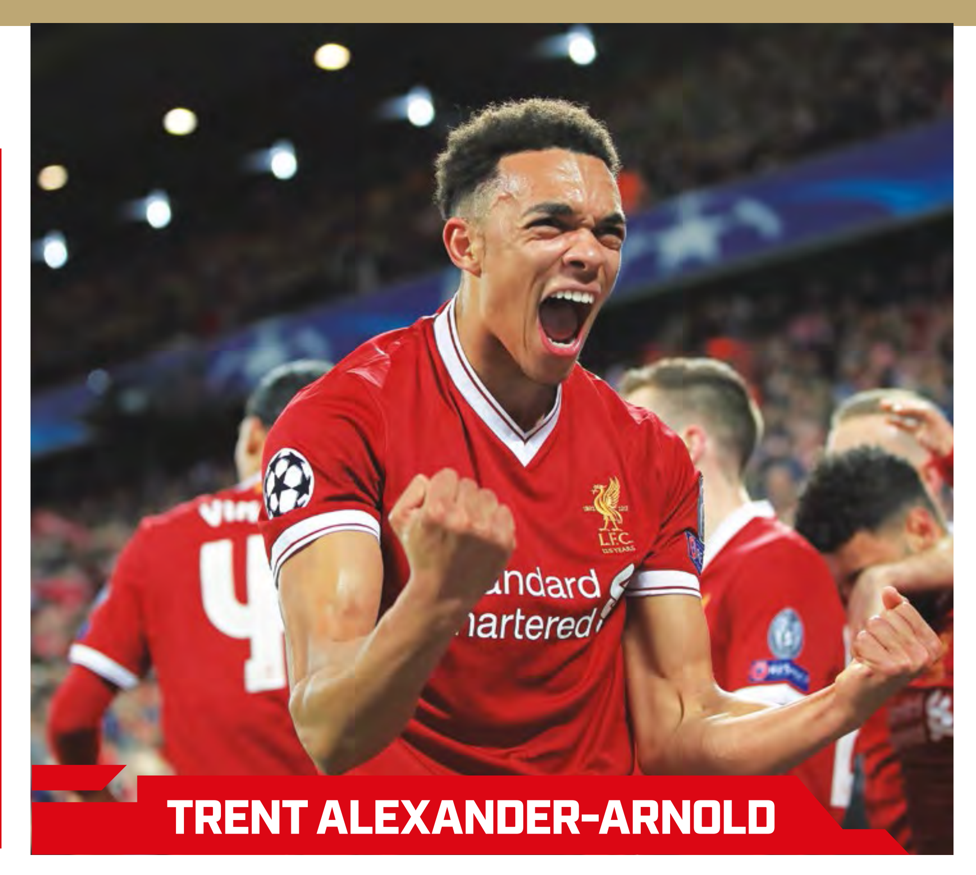
SUNDAY 24 JUNE

Group G
England v Panama
(1pm) BBC

Group H
Japan v Senegal
(4pm) BBC

Poland v Colombia
(7pm) ITV

After their Euro 2016 exit to Iceland no England fan will be taking the World Cup debutants for granted although if anyone scores three goals there's a 'Panama Hat Trick' headline waiting to be written. Japan shouldn't underestimate Sadio Mane either. He's quicker than their trains.



TRENT ALEXANDER-ARNOLD

"Jürgen broke the news"

How Liverpool's young full-back Trent learned that he'd made the Three Lions cut when the squad was announced

Trent Alexander-Arnold described his feelings as being "honoured and excited" after being named in Gareth Southgate's England squad for the World Cup finals. The Reds were about to fly to Marbella for a pre-Champions League Final training camp when manager Jürgen Klopp had a chat to the teenage right-back one morning.

"It was an unbelievable moment to find out I was going to go to the World Cup, especially at a young age. It's probably capped off a really good season for me," he told LFCTV. "I found out just before we came out to Marbella. The manager came and spoke to me just as we were getting on the plane.

"He asked me if I knew anything about the squad or anything yet. I said no and he said: 'Have you got anything planned around the time of the World Cup?' I was like: 'No, no holidays or anything...'

"He said to me: 'Okay, good – you're in the squad!' It was a really proud moment. On England's behalf, it was nice of them to let the manager tell me."

News of Trent's call-up quickly filtered through the Liverpool team plane as they departed John Lennon Airport for the Spanish coast. "The lads all congratulated me and said really well done," he continued. "It's nice to get the recognition from your team-mates as well.

"It wouldn't have happened if it wasn't for them, so I have to thank them, the manager and everyone else who has supported me along the way. I have to say a special thanks to everyone, especially my family for helping me get so far.

"Everyone who has been there along the way, even going back to when I was really young, around the age of six. I just want to say thanks to everyone who has played a part, because without them I wouldn't be where I am or who I am today. It's thanks to all of them.

"I hope they can all feel as proud as I do about getting the call-up."





MONDAY 25 JUNE

Group A
Uruguay v Russia
(3pm) ITV

Saudi Arabia v Egypt
(3pm) ITV

Group B
Spain v Morocco
(7pm) BBC

Iran v Portugal
(7pm) BBC

Egypt have only been to the World Cup twice before – in 1934 and 1990 – and have never won a game, let alone qualify from the group stage. So if Mo Salah inspires the Pharaohs to do both today it's hard to predict how his nation will react given they voted him runner-up in the Egyptian presidential race in March when he wasn't even standing! Could be quite a night in Cairo then...



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TUESDAY 26 JUNE

Group C
Australia v Peru
(3pm) ITV

Denmark v France
(3pm) ITV

Group D
Nigeria v Argentina
(7pm) BBC

Iceland v Croatia
(7pm) BBC

You'll never see a Merseyside derby in Russia but there will be a flavour of it in Rostov tonight when Dejan Lovren and Gylfi Sigurdsson meet as Croatia take on Iceland. Up the Reds! Argentina play Nigeria for the fifth time in seven World Cups and it could be ex-Red Javier Mascherano's swan-song – *El Jefecito* has announced he will retire from international football after the tournament.

WEDNESDAY 27 JUNE

Group F
South Korea v Germany
(3pm) BBC

Mexico v Sweden
(3pm) BBC

Group E
Serbia v Brazil
(7pm) ITV

Switzerland v Costa Rica
(7pm) ITV

The bookies make Neymar and Gabriel Jesus bigger favourites to be World Cup leading goalscorer than Firmino, but maybe that's an error. "I can see Firmino playing with Gabriel Jesus," said boss Tite. "Brazil has lacked alternatives in previous World Cups and it cost us big. That's why I want to use Coutinho in midfield, Willian as winger, playing with Firmino and Jesus together." Question is can Marko's Serbia stop them?





THURSDAY 28 JUNE

Group H
Japan v Poland
(3pm) BBC

Senegal v Colombia
(3pm) BBC

Group G
Panama v Tunisia
(7pm) ITV

England v Belgium
(7pm) ITV

LFC players have scored for England at each of the last five World Cups: 1998 (Michael Owen), 2002 (Michael Owen and Emile Heskey), 2006 (Steven Gerrard and Peter Crouch), 2010 (Steven Gerrard), and 2014 (Daniel Sturridge). So no pressure on Hendo and Trent in 2018! England v Belgium could be a group decider while Colombia may have Mane, Mane problems against Senegal.

KNOCKOUT STAGES

SATURDAY 30 JUNE

Game 49
1C v 2D
(3pm)

Game 50
1A v 2B
(7pm)

SUNDAY 1 JULY

Game 51
1B v 2A
(3pm)

Game 52
1D v 2C
(7pm)

MONDAY 2 JULY

Game 53
1E v 2F
(3pm)

Game 54
1G v 2H
(7pm)

TUESDAY 3 JULY

Game 55
1F v 2E
(3pm)

Game 56
1H v 2G
(7pm)

Quarter-finals

FRIDAY 6 JULY

Game 57
W49 v W50
(3pm)

Game 58
W53 v W54
(7pm)

SATURDAY 7 JULY

Game 59
W55 v W56
(3pm)

Game 60
W51 v W52
(7pm)

Semi-finals

TUESDAY 10 JULY

Game 61
W57 v W58
(7pm)

WEDNESDAY 11 JULY

Game 62
W59 v W60
(7pm)

Third-place Play-off

SATURDAY 14 JULY

Game 63
L61 v L62
(3pm)



World Cup final

SUNDAY 15 JULY

Game 64
W61 v W62
(4pm)



JORDAN HENDERSON

“We feel we can go there and do something people may not expect”

Reds skipper Jordan Henderson says the foundations are there for England success at this summer's tournament

You were unbeaten in qualifying – how did that feel?
Yes. I think we did very well in qualification. We've got a lot of good players and I think if you look at the last few performances, we've looked solid defensively so that gives us something to build on as a team going into Russia.
There's still a long way to go and there's a lot we can work on but as a squad of players we feel as though we can go there and do something that people may not expect.

You are one of a number of players to have captained England in the past year – does it matter who wears the armband?
Not really. The manager's changed it a few times to give people more responsibility within the team. I think that's a brilliant idea because you don't need just one leader or one captain, you need four or five in your team if you want to achieve anything. I think that's worked really well for the squad and will put us in good stead going into Russia.

What is your favourite World Cup memory?
I'd probably say the goal Michael Owen scored for England against Argentina in the 1998 World Cup. That one sticks out in my head. It was a fantastic goal and he was very young at the time, only 18 I think. I was only eight years old watching it on the TV so it was a while ago now but I'd say that one sticks out in my memory, certainly in terms of England at the World Cup.







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WE ARE LIVERPOOL.
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Month by month, the main Mighty Reds events on and off the football pitch



AUGUST

The first home game of 2017/18, against Crystal Palace in the Premier League, is the third in eight days for Jürgen Klopp's Reds, following a 3-3 draw at Watford – marked by Mohamed Salah's first goal for his new club – and a 2-1 victory at Hoffenheim in the Champions League play-off first leg.

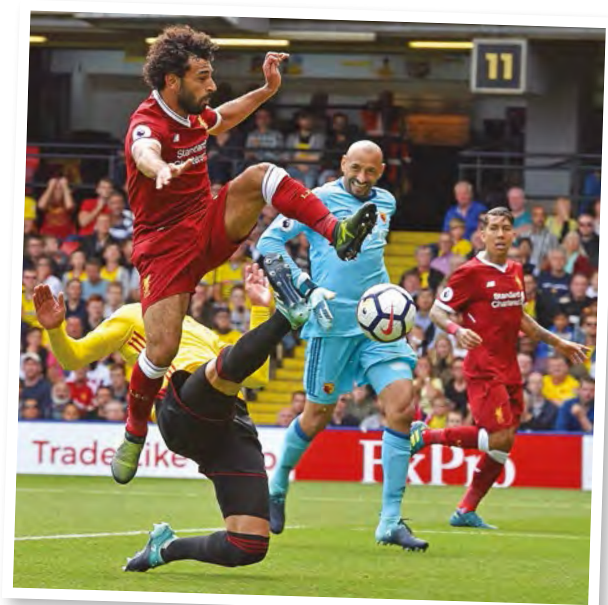
Plenty has already happened on the pitch and around the ground. The playing surface is brand new, with state-of-the-art irrigation and undersoil-heating systems installed, and it's sampled by Jordan Henderson, James Milner, Gini Wijnaldum and Sadio Mane when they don the 2017/18 home kit to mark a new partnership with Western Union, LFC's first-ever official shirt-sleeve sponsor.

There is also new flagship Anfield store, four times the size of the old venue and featuring exclusive LFC products and branded shop-in-shops.

Palace are beaten 1-0, with Liverpool full-back Andy Robertson enjoying a fine debut and being subsequently called up by Scotland for World Cup qualifiers away to Lithuania and at home to Malta.

Then Hoffenheim are vanquished 4-2, before Liverpool thrash Arsenal 4-0 at Anfield with Mane becoming only the third player to score in the first three Premier League games of a season for the Reds after Robbie Fowler (season 1994/95) and Daniel Sturridge (2013/14).

The month ends with the Reds completing the transfer of Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain from Arsenal.



SEPTEMBER

A mixed bag on the pitch as the Reds make a tentative start to their Champions League campaign with draws against Sevilla and Spartak Moscow, while they also make a disappointing early exit from the Carabao Cup after losing 2-0 at Leicester City.

In the Premier League there's a 5-0 humbling at Manchester City, a result precipitated by the first-half dismissal of Sadio Mane following a collision with home keeper Ederson. In fact the only win of September's six games is a 3-2 back at the King Power Stadium four days after the League Cup tie, but Mo Salah wins his first award of the season: the club's Standard Chartered player of the month.

The home game against Burnley is a special one as LFC marks 125 years since its very first game, a friendly against Rotherham Town on Thursday 1 September 1892. Among a host of 125-themed activities is a commemorative mosaic, schoolchildren and Reds legends forming a 'guard of honour' around the pitch; and a 125 anniversary centre-circle flag is carried by young people from the LFC Foundation Premier League Kicks Programme. There is also a new animation depicting LFC's first game in 1892 and a special edition of the matchday programme which interviews lifelong fans Henry 'Harry' Lyness and Eric Hooton who will both turn 90 later in the season.



THE FIRST MATCH



LFC CEO Peter Moore says: "It's important we celebrate our 125th anniversary because it's a special milestone in the history of a unique club, its community and its wonderful supporters. The key is to celebrate our past, that moment when it all began, and look back with fondness – as we should – but also use it as a platform to look forward and continue to shape our story. We're using the moment we're in to celebrate our past and focus on the future. We are a global football club but one with a local heart."





OCTOBER

Two draws on the bounce: 1-1 at Newcastle then goalless at home to Manchester United in a fixture coinciding with the official unveiling to fans of the Kenny Dalglish Stand, in honour of one of Liverpool FC's greatest servants.

A mosaic is revealed across the stand and the Kop ahead of kick-off. As well as the tribute to Kenny, matchday against United also sees the Reds wearing the *Seeing is Believing* logo on their shirts to highlight work by partners Standard Chartered to tackle avoidable blindness.

There's an international break between those two draws, and while Jordan Henderson, Daniel Sturridge and Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain feature as England book their place at



next summer's tournament, Mo Salah shows nerves of steel to convert a 95th-minute penalty for Egypt against Congo to secure qualification for the first time since 1990.

Earlier Mo had won LFC's player and goal of the month prizes for September, the latter for his back-post header in the 3-2 victory over Leicester City. He therefore retains both trophies, which he also picked up for August.

Liverpool win 7-0 at Maribor in their Champions League group game – a new club-record away European win which features a debut goal for Oxlade-Chamberlain. It's also a record victory under Jürgen Klopp and equals the Champions League record away win.

Moving swiftly on from a 4-1 defeat at Tottenham, the Reds return to Anfield to beat Huddersfield Town, managed by Klopp's pal David Wagner, 3-0.

The fixture is Anfield's closest to Remembrance Weekend, and accordingly the Reds play in special shirts embroidered with poppies. Afterwards the players sign their matchday jerseys and

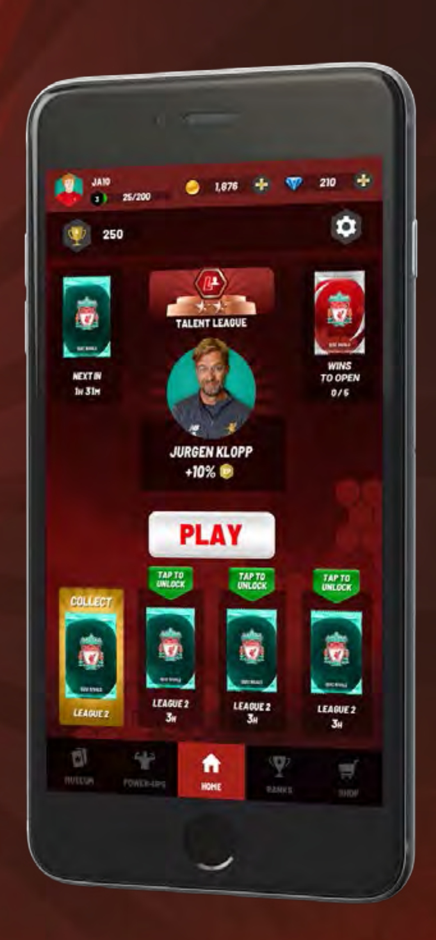


donate them to the Royal British Legion to help raise vital funds.

On the same day, Saturday 28 October, young Reds striker Rhian Brewster scores in England's 5-2 win over Spain in the final of the Under-17 World Cup in India. It's his eighth goal of the competition and he'd already bagged a hat-trick versus Brazil in the semi-finals – his second of the tournament!



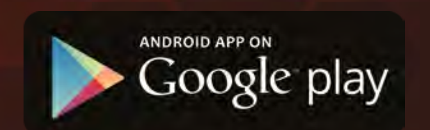




QUIZ RIVALS
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NOVEMBER

Another busy month sees the Reds put themselves on the brink of qualification for the group stages of the Champions League with a home win over NK Maribor and a 3-3 draw at Sevilla. Four Premier League fixtures bring three wins, against West Ham, Southampton and Stoke City, and a 1-1 home draw with champions Chelsea.

Liverpool Ladies attacking midfielder Caroline Weir is named Women's Player of the Year for 2017 at the North West Football Awards, while the men's team receives a Melwood visit from England cricket aces James Anderson and Moeen Ali, the latter being an honorary ambassador for the Official LFC Supporters' Club in Pakistan.

Ahead of the home game against Southampton, on Saturday 18 November, Liverpool FC unveils a unique work of art at the new Anfield store, commissioned to commemorate the 125th anniversary. Sports artist Jamie Cooper distils the past, present and future on a stunning three-metre oil-on-canvas entitled 'LFC Dream Scene'. It brings together 19 of Liverpool's greatest servants and a lucky young competition winner in one magical moment in time. The artwork also features on a special gatefold cover for the official matchday programme.







Continuing the 125-theme, the club releases a new official book. Entitled *LFC 125: The Alternative History*, it's a treasury of tales, anecdotes, captivating recollections and little-known facts, told from different angles and new perspectives.

Off the field, members of the Reds playing and backroom staff are heavily involved in various community activities. Head of nutrition Mona Nemmer leads a group of local schoolchildren in a healthy eating class at Melwood, while Simon Mignolet and Emre Can join others as they prepare for a Premier League Writing Stars competition launched on National Poetry Day.

During the half-term holiday Reds vice-captain James Milner visits an LFC Foundation multi-sport camp in Anfield. He sees first-hand how they are benefiting from the sessions, which were funded by a generous donation from James' own charity, The James Milner Foundation. He also tries his hand at dodgeball, cricket, hockey and rugby!







DECEMBER

December, busy? Just a tad. The first of eight games in the month for Liverpool is a 5-1 victory at Brighton & Hove Albion which moves the Reds into the top four of the Premier League for the first time since August.

The next day, Sunday 3 December, Reds and Blues are united for the 14th annual Liverpool Santa Dash. Guests included Reds legend Alan Kennedy and club CEO Peter Moore, who was running for the Owen McVeigh Foundation set up in honour of the young Liverpool fan who died in December 2015.

The Liverpool FC squad also take time-out to spread some festive cheer and bring a little ho-ho-ho to Alder Hey on their annual Christmas trip to the hospital.

There's a 7-0 trouncing of Spartak Moscow in the Champions League at Anfield. Captain-for-the-night Philippe Coutinho duly nets his first LFC hat-trick as the Reds seal their place in the last 16 in style. It's a goal-count of 23-7 on aggregate over the six group games.

Back in the Premier League, though, there are two disappointing home draws: 1-1 with Everton, notable for another Mo Salah special, and 0-0 with West Brom, in which Reds substitute Dominic Solanke twice comes close to winning it but sees one late effort ruled out for handball and another cleared off the line.

At Bournemouth it's back to winning ways, 4-0, as Mo reaches 20 goals in a season for Liverpool in the fourth-quickest time; only Ian Rush and Roger Hunt have done it quicker.

The Reds are now the first team in top-flight history to win four consecutive away games by a margin of at least three goals.

Next up, a 3-3 at Arsenal on a Friday night means the Reds have scored 54 away goals in all competitions in 2017, their most in a calendar year since 1982. This is also the fifth successive away game in which they've scored three or more.

Then comes a 5-0 home win over Swansea City on Boxing Day which means that of the teams in the Europe's 'big five' leagues – England, France, Germany, Italy and Spain – only Paris St-Germain (89) and Manchester City (77) have



scored more goals this season than Liverpool's 75.

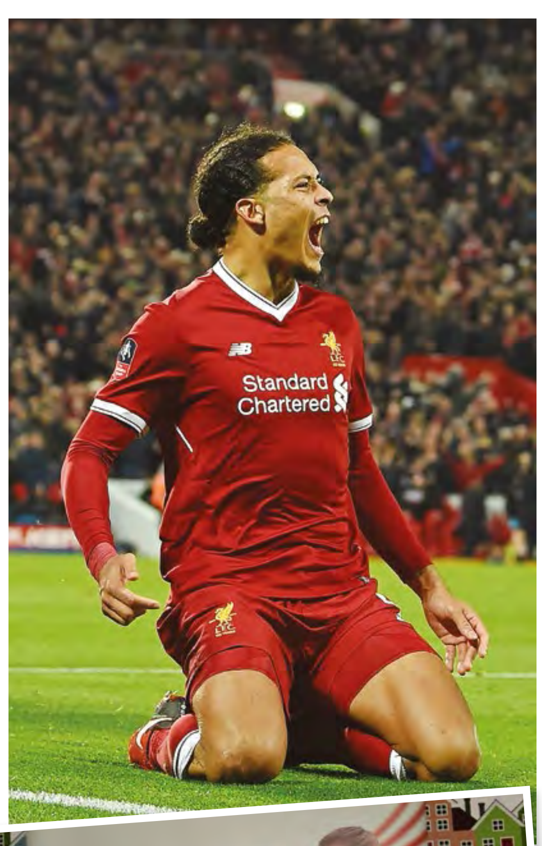
On target is local lad Trent Alexander-Arnold who scores his first Anfield goal for Liverpool, and afterwards he tells the club website: "Every lad dreams of scoring at the Kop-end under the floodlights, and especially with it coming off the bar and going in!" Roberto Firmino strikes twice while Alex



Oxlade-Chamberlain also fires home his first Anfield Premier League goal for the club.

Liverpool then bring the curtain down on 2017 by coming back to win 2-1 against Leicester City at Anfield. Mo Salah strikes twice to earn the three points, taking his tally before the end of the year to 23 in all competitions – that's more than eight Premier League clubs by the close of 2017.

The boss: "It is a maximum satisfaction to win like this today. When we were one goal down our reaction was the best I've ever seen in this situation. The crowd was unbelievable."



JANUARY

Record signing Virgil van Dijk marks his Liverpool debut by scoring the winner in a Merseyside derby. The centre-back's late Kop-end header gives the Reds a 2-1 win over Everton in an FA Cup third-round clash live on Friday night.

While Kopites hail a new hero, they also remember an old one when goalkeeping great Tommy Lawrence passes away on Tuesday 9 January. 'The Flying Pig', a regular in Bill Shankly's great sides of the Sixties, was 77.

A club record is broken as the Reds receive a new transfer fee high for Brazilian playmaker Philippe Coutinho who joins Barcelona for a sum widely reported to be in the region of £142 million.

The first couple of weeks of the year also see Mo Salah pick up a hat-trick of awards. The Egyptian King holds off competition from Liverpool team-mate Sadio Mane and Arsenal-bound striker Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang to be named African Player of the Year for 2017 and receives the award at a ceremony in Ghana.

He's also named as the PFA's Player of the Month for the second month running and completes his awards treble by winning LFC's Goal of the Month for December thanks to his magnificent strike in the Premier League Merseyside derby at Anfield.

Salah stars as the Reds become the first team of the season to beat Manchester City in the Premier League, running out 4-3 winners in an Anfield thriller. That same



day is a special one for LFC Official Member Ben Marsden who wins a competition to design the front cover of the matchday programme. The 14-year-old from Burley-in-Wharfedale produces an eye-catching design featuring Jürgen Klopp and Pep Guardiola.

The first game played at Anfield with access to a Video Assistant Referee is dominated by referrals as West Brom end Liverpool's dreams of FA Cup glory with a 3-2 victory. Referee Craig Pawson rules out a Baggies goal, gives Liverpool a penalty and delays awarding the visitors' third because of VAR referrals on a Saturday night to forget for the Reds.

January also sees young Reds fan George Mathias receives a Points of Light award from LFC Foundation on behalf of the Prime Minister. The 11-year-old set up Run With George, a fundraising campaign in aid of Alder Hey, after his younger brother James received life-saving treatment at the hospital. Alongside Steven Gerrard and Jamie Carragher and other celebrities, George embarked on a series of one-mile sponsored runs that had raised a remarkable £55,000 and counting.


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FEBRUARY

The month begins with late drama as the Reds draw 2-2 with Tottenham at Anfield. Leading 1-0 with ten minutes to go, Liverpool are stunned by a wonder-strike from Victor Wanyama and Spurs then win a penalty with three minutes to go. Loris Karius denies Harry Kane from the spot and Mo Salah scores an incredible solo goal to put Liverpool 2-1 up in the final minute. But Virgil van Dijk is penalised for handball in the area and this time Kane converts his spot-kick to earn Tottenham a share of the spoils.

The month also brings a 2-0 win at Southampton and a 4-1 home win over West Ham which book-end a breathtaking performance in the Champions League. The Reds inflict FC Porto's heaviest-ever home defeat in Europe as Sadio Mane hits a hat-trick in a 5-0 victory at the Estadio do Dragao as Liverpool build a healthy first-leg advantage in their round-of-16 tie. Afterwards Jürgen Klopp's squad fly to Marbella for a warm-weather training camp.



Liverpool Ladies striker Bethany England is named FA WSL 1 Player of the Month for January after an excellent spell which saw her score six goals in two league games, including four in an 8-0 rout of Yeovil Town.

In the UEFA Youth League the Reds Under-19s reach the last eight of the tournament with a 2-0 victory over Manchester United at Prenton Park.

Off the pitch, 11 new Official Liverpool FC Supporters Clubs are granted official status. The new intake spans the USA, India, Europe and Asia, with 2,000 new members joining over 143,000 fellow Reds in being officially recognised for their incredible support of LFC around the world.

Liverpool stars Joel Matip and Dominic Solanke show off their dance moves when they join local schoolchildren and CBBC favourites Ben Shires and Naomi Wilkinson at Anfield to take part in a BBC Super Movers Live Lesson; while LFC Foundation makes a £225k donation to Alder Hey Children's Charity – the funds were raised by Reds fans and the wider LFC family who supported the Legends Charity Match v Real Madrid at Anfield in March 2017.





LFC legends Ian Rush, Robbie Fowler and Gary McAllister drop in at the hospital to meet patients benefiting from research.

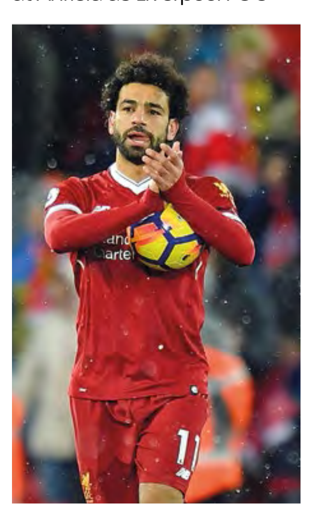
MARCH

Another month of solid progress sees the Reds win three out of their four Premier League games with the only setback a 2-1 defeat at Manchester United.

A 5-0 home win over Watford provides the highlight with Mohamed Salah scoring his first hat-trick for the club. The Egyptian ace goes on to net four times as the Reds sting the Hornets in style.

The Under-19s experience penalty heartache in the quarter-finals of the UEFA Youth League, losing 3-2 in a shoot-out following a 1-1 draw at Manchester City.

At the end of the month there is a sun-dappled afternoon at Anfield as Liverpool FC's Legends take on their Bayern Munich counterparts in the LFC Foundation Official Legends Charity Match 2018. It finishes 5-5!



Midfield maestro Xabi Alonso, who switches sides halfway through the 90 minutes, says: "It's always great to be back here, but it was such a special game for me. Both clubs are attached to my heart. It was a great crowd, a full house, and the atmosphere was fantastic – like it always is here."

There is, of course, a bigger goal on the day: the chance for the LFC Foundation to raise more vital funds for its projects and partnerships, for children and young people, in the Liverpool city region and beyond.

Liverpool Football Club also launches its official former players' association called Forever Reds.

Schoolchildren from the Anfield area gather at the stadium to hear a few legends recount their favourite memories, and Forever Reds chair John Aldridge says: "You never lose the connection to this club and our supporters, so to have this link made official means we can do great things together for our local communities."

The start of the month brings World Book Day, and Red Neighbours and LFC Foundation team up with two children's authors to celebrate. First-team stars Emre Can and Trent Alexander-Arnold join Ben Lyttleton and Alex Bellos, creators of the Football School book series, to host a fun and interactive literacy event for 200 local pupils.



Another Red Neighbours event at the stadium sees groundstaff giving local pupils a unique insight into the art of creating a world-class pitch during a Schools into Stadia event.



APRIL

Sensational Champions League performances against Manchester City and AS Roma make it a memorable month. The Reds take control of their quarter-final tie against City and semi-final clash with the Italian side by building three-goal first leg advantages at Anfield backed by a vociferous home support.

They are also unbeaten in the league as they edge closer to a top-four finish, although manager Jürgen Klopp is frustrated by draws against Everton, West Brom and Stoke City, the latter fixture also serving as the club's annual LFC Foundation Day.

Mo Salah's sensational season is recognised by his fellow professionals as he is named as the PFA Player of the Year at an awards ceremony in London.







Another award-winner is ex-Reds goal-machine Ian Rush who is presented with a Legends of Sport honour by the Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan (left). Mr Khan refers to Rush as "a true Kop legend and a real boyhood hero of mine."

Meanwhile, pupils from four local schools get a surprise when captain Jordan Henderson and defender Trent Alexander-Arnold hand over free tickets for the final Premier League game of the season against Brighton and Hove Albion.

More than 1,000 free tickets have been donated to local schools during the 2017/18 campaign with 21 primary and four high schools in the L4, L5 and L6 postcodes benefiting across the season.





MAY

After a nail-biting semi-final, Liverpool fans start making their travel plans for another Champions League final. Before the date with Real Madrid, however, there is still the matter of qualifying for next season's tournament.

A 1-0 defeat at Chelsea means the Reds need to win their final game of the season against Brighton and they produce a first-class display against the Seagulls to secure fourth position for a second successive season (see page 68 for more).

Prior to the game Mohamed Salah is named as the Football Writers' Footballer of the Year, becoming the sixth Liverpool man to win both the PFA and FWA awards in the same season. His goal in the Reds' 4-0 win also sees him claim the Premier League's Golden Boot award after finishing as top scorer with 32 goals.

The no11 is also named Player of the Year by fans and team-mates at the club's annual awards evening.

In other football news, Under-18s manager Steven Gerrard is named as the new manager of Rangers and will take charge on 1 June. He led the young Reds to a third-placed finish in the Premier League Under-18s North. His Under-23s counterpart Neil Critchley guides his own side to runners-up spot in Premier League 2. Meanwhile, Liverpool Ladies end their campaign in sixth spot in the FA Women's Super League 1.

And so to Kiev. It isn't to be as Real Madrid secure a third consecutive success in the tournament to win their 13th European Cup, but the travelling Reds create an incredible atmosphere and return home optimistic about what the future holds. Some season, eh?



PROG

This is Anfield.

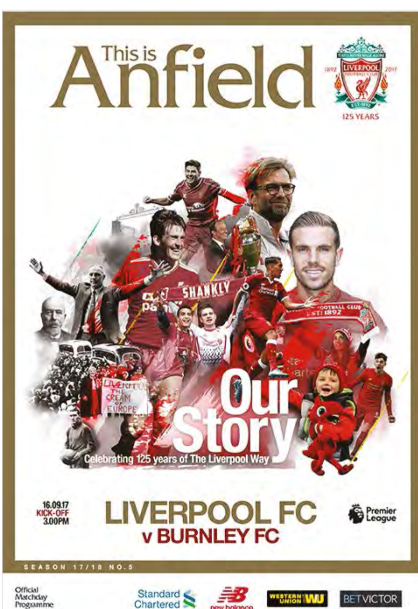
All 28 Liverpool FC matchday programme front covers from season 2017/18

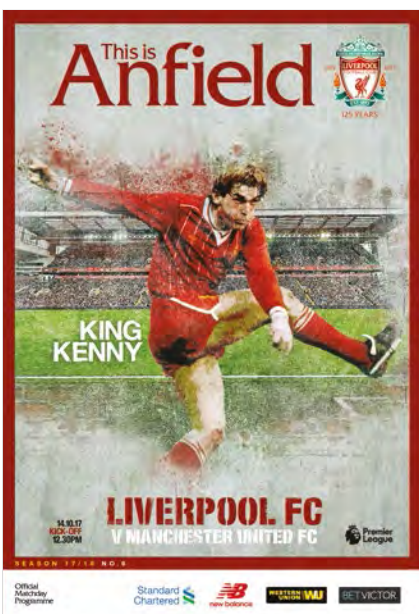
The cover concept for Liverpool FC's Premier League programmes drew inspiration from street art













There were special souvenir covers for the 125 anniversary and the official renaming of the Kenny Dalglish Stand

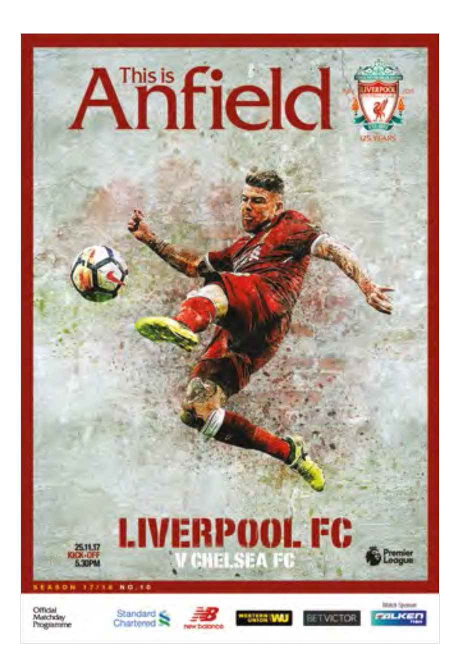
ROCK

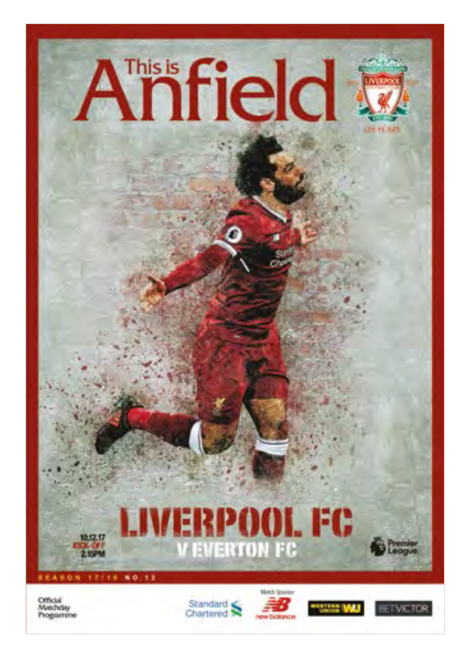


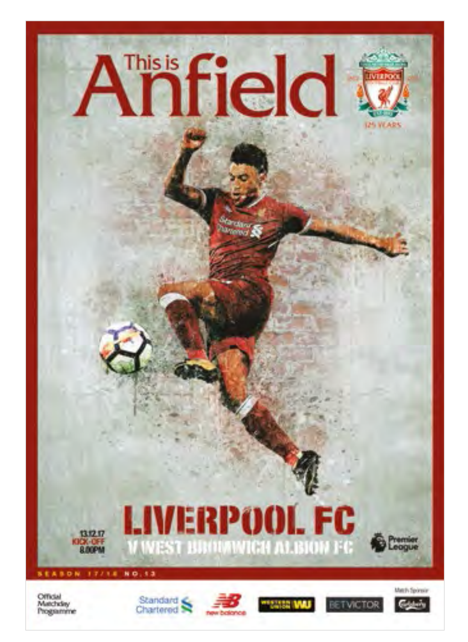
The larger-format, 100-page matchday programmes for the Champions League proved a big hit with Reds fans

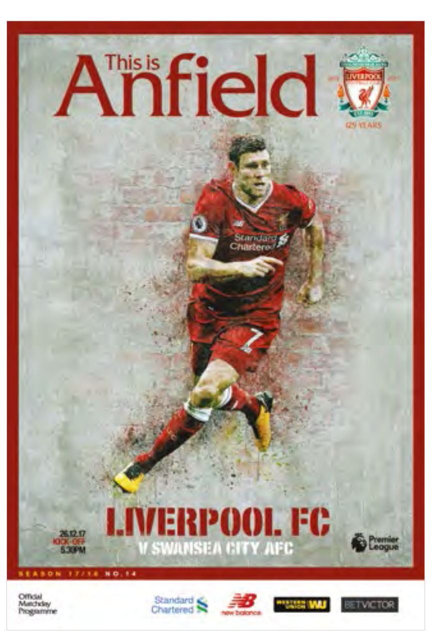


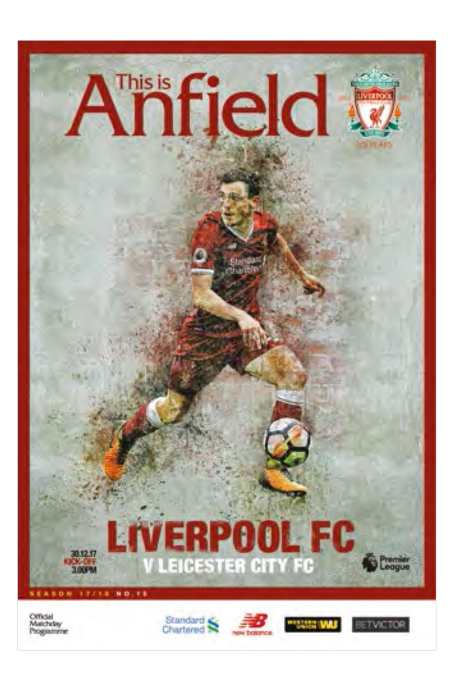
The stunning 125 artwork entitled LFC Dream Scene, depicting Reds legends from all eras together in the dressing-room, adorned the front cover for the Liverpool v Southampton fixture in the Premier League and there was a gatefold pullout inside

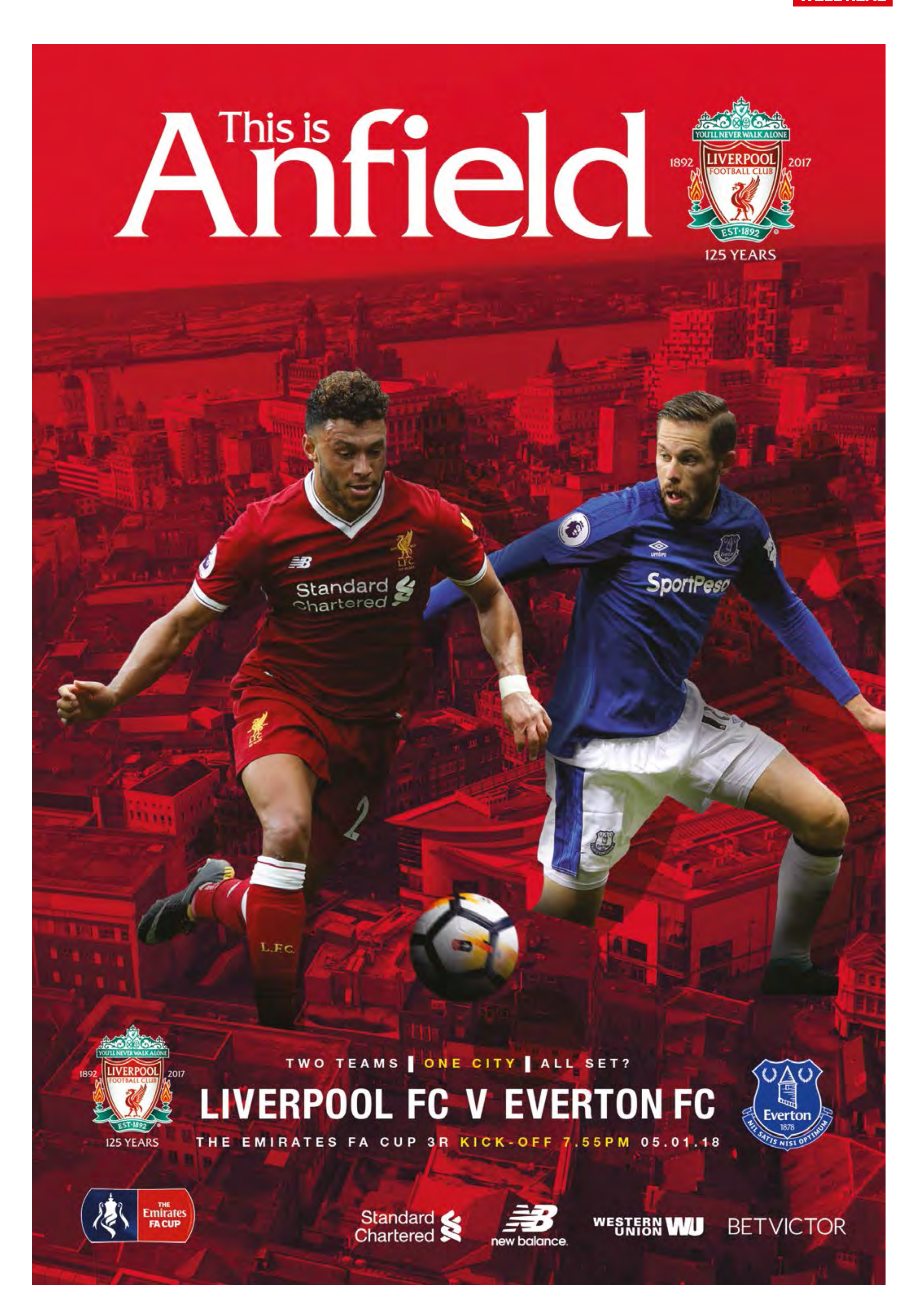


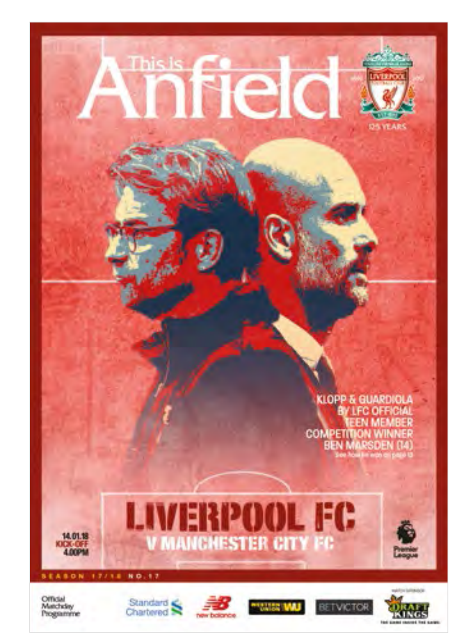




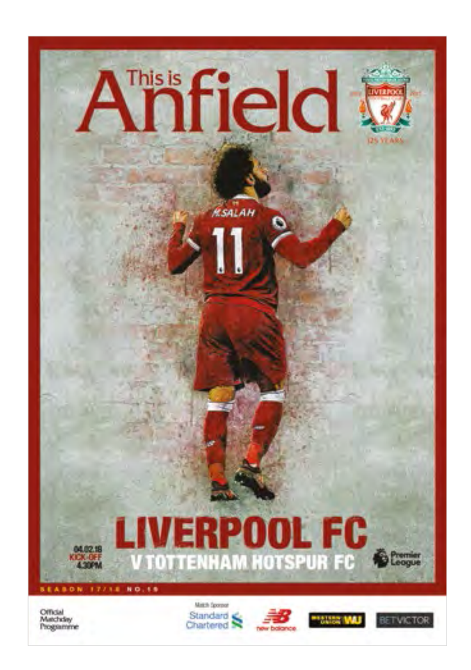




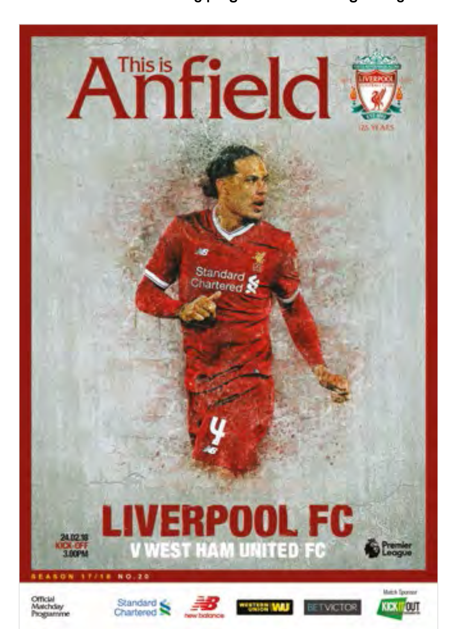

This is Anfield
YOU'LL NEVER WALK ALONE
1892 LIVERPOOL 2017
FOOTBALL CLUB
EST·1892
125 YEARS
Standard Chartered
TWO TEAMS | ONE CITY | ALL SET?
LIVERPOOL FC V EVERTON FC
THE EMIRATES FA CUP 3R KICK-OFF 7.55PM 05.01.18
Everton
1878
NIL SATIS NISI OPTIMUM
THE Emirates FA CUP
Standard Chartered
new balance
WESTERN UNION WU
BETVICTOR





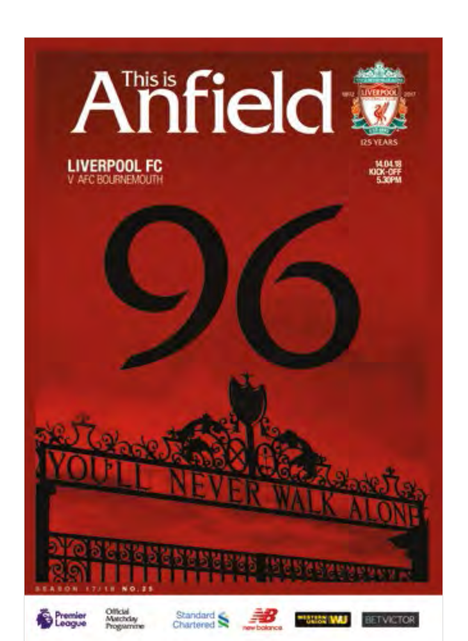


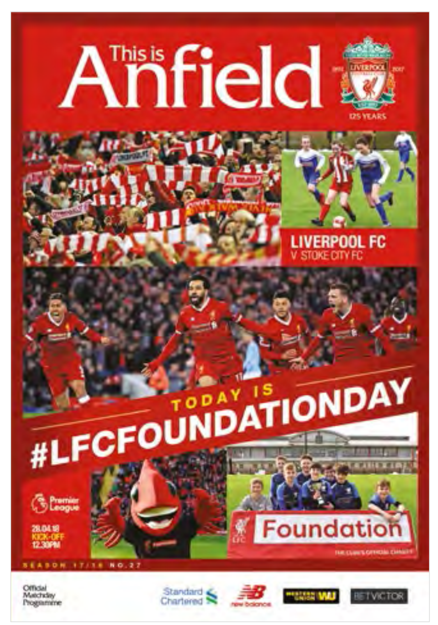
The cover for the Man City programme was designed by an LFC Official Teen Member competition winner













Left to right: commemorative Hillsborough anniversary cover (Bournemouth); LFC Foundation Day (Stoke City); and the season-finale new-kit reveal (Brighton & Hove Albion)


BRIGHTON
LALLANA
SOLANKE
Standard Chartered



Rocks!

How the Reds secured their Premier League top-four finish with a scintillating home display against the Seagulls

After the many highs of the 2017/18 season's adventures in the UEFA Champions League, Liverpool fans will be hoping for more memories to cherish in 2018/19.

To ensure qualification was possible through their Premier League placing ahead of the trip to Kiev, the Reds had to earn a point against Brighton on the final day of the season. There was an air of expectation around Anfield with Jürgen Klopp's men going all out for victory against the Seagulls. After all, as the manager explained: "I'm not sure how you play for a point."

There was a sense of deja-vu in L4. Twelve months earlier Liverpool had needed to beat Middlesbrough at home on the final day to clinch fourth place. That day, they did just that, putting in a wonderful display of attacking football at a sun-drenched Anfield to book their place in Europe's premier club competition.

In May 2018 this season's anthem *Allez Allez Allez* rang out around the ground before the team, led out by skipper Jordan Henderson, lined up for kick-off by offering a sneak preview of what lies ahead by donning the new 'Pepper Red' home strip they will be wearing in the coming campaign.

Rewind to that day in May 2017: Kopites had an anxious 45 minutes before Gini Wijnaldum opened the scoring against Boro. This time the nerves lasted 26 minutes, or possibly 23, as that was the time on the clock when, elsewhere, Newcastle United's Dwight Gayle put his side ahead against Chelsea, the Reds' rivals for that final Champions League berth.

Mohamed Salah went into the game leading Tottenham's Harry Kane by three goals in the race for the Golden Boot, 31 to 28. The Egyptian also knew that one more strike would set a new 38-game Premier League high, eclipsing the 31 set by Luis Suarez, Cristiano Ronaldo and Alan Shearer.











With James Milner missing from the line-up due to a minor injury, the likelihood was that Salah would also be on penalty duty. Eight minutes in, ex-Everton centre-back Shane Duffy appeared to handle Trent Alexander-Arnold's teasing cross into the penalty box. Referee Kevin Friend was unmoved, just as he was ten minutes later when Salah went to ground in the area under Duffy's heavy challenge.

Sixty seconds later Dominic Solanke played in Sadio Mane and the Senegalese ace was through on Seagulls keeper Mathew Ryan. The Kop waited for the net to bulge but instead the Australian custodian produced a fine save to keep Liverpudlians waiting.

The Reds were dominant but the goal that would calm any jangling nerves was still to arrive.





They were not to be denied much longer, however. Wijnaldum found Solanke who in turn knocked the ball into the path of the Premier League's top marksman. With one majestic sweep of his left foot, Salah found the bottom corner of the Kop-end net.

"Mo Salah, Mo Salah, Mo Salah, Running down the wing, Salah-la-la-la-la-la, the Egyptian King!" In that moment the no11 had outscored Huddersfield Town (28), Swansea City (28) and West Bromwich Albion (31) for the 2017/18 campaign!

Four minutes later he should've had goal no45 for the season overall when Mane attempted to square the ball unselfishly when in on goal, but the pass lacked pace and Salah was thwarted, first by Ryan and then by Duffy.

With eight minutes left before the break, Brighton midfielder Solly March fired a tame effort into the arms of Loris Karius. The travelling supporters at the Anfield Road end broke into song: "We've had a shot, we've had a shot, we've had a shot!"













It was turning into that kind of day. Mane, Roberto Firmino and Wijnaldum could have added to Liverpool's lead before two defenders combined to double the advantage. Andy Robertson went surging down the left and picked out a perfect cross to the far-post where it was headed home with some force by the on-rushing Dejan Lovren. It was a timely moment for the Croatian to score his first league goal for Liverpool at Anfield.

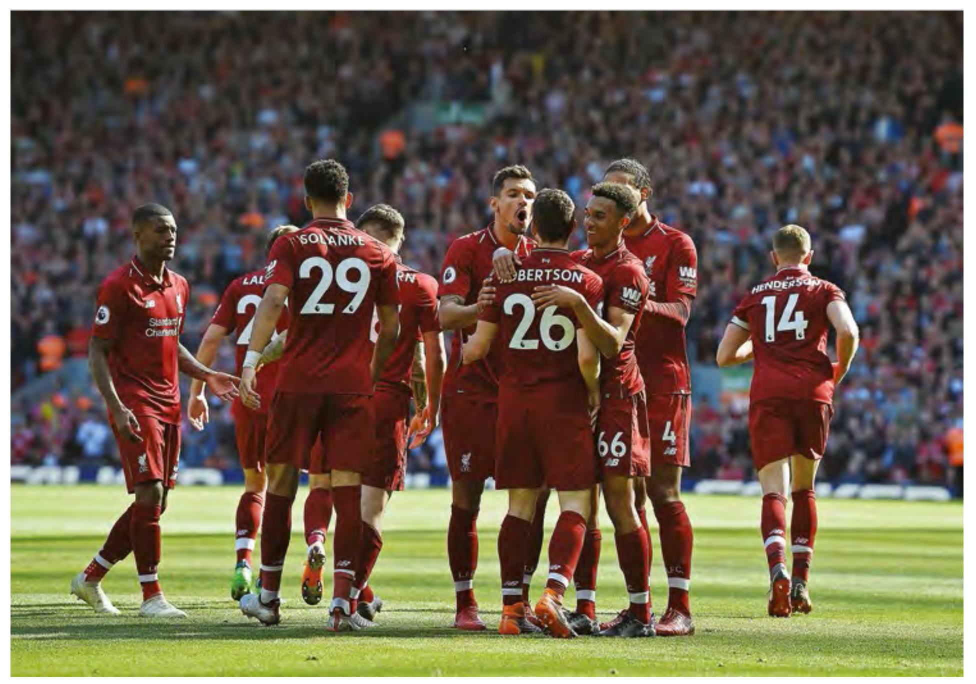
The Kop responded with chants of "Bring on yer Internazionale!" and the party atmosphere was in full flow.

The second-half was only eight minutes old when fans were celebrating again and it was a lovely moment for Dominic Solanke. This time Salah was the supplier, providing his tenth Premier League assist of the season as he slid a perfectly weighted pass into the forward's path. Solanke smashed a first-time shot past Ryan and into the roof of the net.









On the hour-mark news came through of Ayoze Perez having doubled Newcastle's lead over Chelsea at St James's Park. Rafael Benitez was name-checked by the supporters before they shouted out a defiant "We Shall Not Be Moved!"

When Perez scored again soon afterwards there was no doubting that Liverpool would be playing Champions League football in consecutive seasons for the first time since Benitez's side had achieved the feat in 2008/09 and 09/10.

Salah and Firmino received rapturous receptions as they left the fray with seven minutes remaining and there was still time for another club first as Robertson fired home the fourth with five minutes left. It was the first time two Liverpool players had scored their first goals for the club in the final league game of the season and a fitting way to end the club's Premier League proceedings.

The ground saluted the left-back with choruses of "Oh Andy, Andy, Andy, Andy, Andy, Andy Robertson!" in tribute to the Scot's stellar debut campaign with the Reds.

On the final whistle Brighton boss Chris Hughton graciously hugged Jürgen Klopp and offered a word in his ear. A good luck wish for Kiev, perhaps? Brighton's reserve keeper Tim Krul also sought out his former Newcastle team-mate Wijnaldum for a quick chat, maybe to offer similar words of encouragement.

Before the players re-emerged with their families for a lap of appreciation there was a special moment as Salah was presented with three notable awards. Fittingly for May 2018 it turned into a royal occasion with one king, the Egyptian one, receiving his PFA Players' Player and Football Writers' Footballer of the Year awards from another, King Kenny Dalglish.

Mo then collected the Golden Boot, which he eventually won by two goals: 32 to Kane's 30 (the England man netting twice in Tottenham's astonishing 5-4 scoring spree against Leicester City at Wembley).











Words: William Hughes





The Reds' Player of the Year was joined on the pitch by his four-year-old daughter Makka. As she began playing with one of the footballs that kit-man Graham Carter had left on the side of the pitch in readiness for the players' circuit of the ground, her every touch was greeted by hearty cheers.

As he left the pitch Makka's father produced a Cruyff drag-back to take the ball well away from her tiny stride. Boos reverberated around Anfield!

Salah left the scene with a smile as wide as the Mersey, clutching the Golden Boot to his chest. He had also left his mark on Liverpool with arguably the most impressive debut season the club has ever seen, quite fitting in the campaign in which the Reds had celebrated their 125th anniversary.



"DRIVING THE STANDARDS"

Under-23s coach Neil Critchley and co look to push on as their charges end an impressive league campaign in second spot

Liverpool's Under-23s finished as runners-up in Premier League 2 last season after being pipped to the title by Arsenal.

The Gunners finished two points clear of the Reds in the final analysis as Liverpool's record of only one win from their final four fixtures proved decisive.

But coach Neil Critchley, who stepped up from his previous role as Under-18s manager to take charge of the higher age-group, relished the experience.

He said: "I get great support from the staff around me from Alex [Inglethorpe] down to Mick [Garrity], Jenks [head of development analysis Tim Jenkins,] and Mozza [goalkeeping coach Mark Morris].

"They're brilliant and they've got more experience than me of working at this level so I lean on them heavily.

"I have thoroughly enjoyed the challenge of working with the 23s. It is slightly different from the 18s, not massively different but it is a little bit just because you're working with older players and their thinking is slightly different than the 18s.

"They've not just left school, they are now getting towards the stage where they are earning a living and having to find a career in football. We hope that's here at Liverpool."

In the cup competitions the Reds lost 3-1 at Middlesbrough in the round of 16 in the League Cup and were edged out by FC Porto in the quarter-final of the Premier League International Cup, the Portuguese side going on to lift the trophy after beating Arsenal in the final.

Attacker Bobby Adekanye featured on most occasions, figuring in 31 of the team's 34 fixtures. Fellow forward Harry Wilson was top scorer, netting 14 goals before spending the second half of the season on loan at Championship club Hull City for whom he netted seven goals in 14 games. The Welshman was also named as Liverpool FC's

RESULTS 2017/18

AUGUST

11	**SWANSEA CITY** Dhanda, Ings	2-0
20	**SUNDERLAND** Virtue 2, Brewster	3-0
25	**ARSENAL** Hart, Brewster	2-1

SEPTEMBER

1	**FLEETWOOD TOWN (LSC FINAL)** Johnston	1-1*
10	**MAN CITY** Dhanda	1-0
18	**WEST HAM** Wilson 2	2-0
22	**TOTTENHAM** Wilson 3, Brewster	4-2
29	**CHARLTON ATH (PLC)** Wilson	1-1

OCTOBER

16	**DERBY C**	0-2
23	**MAN UNITED** Grujic, Wilson, Ejaria	3-1
29	**LEICESTER CITY** Wilson	1-2

NOVEMBER

5	**BRISTOL CITY (PLC)** Ings 4, Wilson, Dhanda, Masterson	7-0
10	**NEWCASTLE (PLC)** Virtue, Ejaria	2-1
18	**EVERTON** Whelan, Kane, Brewster, Dhanda	4-0
26	**CHELSEA** Wilson 2, Woodburn	3-1
28	**SPARTA P (PLIC)**	0-1

DECEMBER

3	**STOKE CITY (PLC)** L Jones, Ings 2	3-4
10	**SUNDERLAND** Virtue, Brannagan, Brewster, Woodburn	4-1
16	**SWANSEA CITY** Brannagan	1-3
19	**PSV (PLIC)** Wilson, Brewster, Virtue	3-0

JANUARY

12	**MAN CITY** Wilson, Gomes	2-3
21	**CHARLTON (PLC)** Adekanye 2, Wilson, Gomes	4-1
28	**DERBY COUNTY** Ejaria	1-0

FEBRUARY

5	**TOTTENHAM**	0-1
13	**BRISTOL CITY (PLC)**	0-1
17	**WEST HAM**	0-1
25	**STOKE CITY (PLC)** Solanke 3, Adekanye	4-0
28	**FC PORTO (PLIC)** Virtue	1-2

MARCH

5	**LEICESTER CITY**	0-4
9	**MAN UNITED** Lewis	1-2
21	**MIDDLESBROUGH (PLC RO16)** Virtue	1-3

APRIL

9	**ARSENAL** Gallacher	1-1
16	**EVERTON** Phillips, Solanke, Own Goal	3-1

MAY

8	**CHELSEA** Johnston 2, Dhanda 2, Adekanye	5-1

PLC = Premier League Cup PLIC = Premier League International Cup *LFC won 5-4 on penalties after extra-time





GAMES & GOALS

	APPS	GLS
BOBBY ADEKANYE	19 (12)	4
YAN DHANDA	19 (9)	6
HERBIE KANE	19 (5)	1
GEORGE JOHNSTON	19 (4)	3
COREY WHELAN	21	1
MATTY VIRTUE	18 (3)	7
CONOR MASTERSON	18 (3)	1
HARRY WILSON	19	14
OVIE EJARIA	19	3
LLOYD JONES	18 (1)	1
KAMIL GRABARA	15	0
JUANMA	8 (7)	0
RHIAN BREWSTER	14 (1)	6
DANNY INGS	14	7
CAMERON BRANNAGAN	11 (3)	2
CAOIMHIN KELLEHER	13	0
TONI GOMES	8 (4)	4
BEN WOODBURN	11	2
NATHANIEL PHILLIPS	11	1
LIAM MILLAR	6 (6)	0
ADAM LEWIS	9 (2)	1
TONY GALLACHER	9 (1)	1
PAULO ALVES	2 (5)	0
RAFAEL CAMACHO	6 (1)	0
ELIJAH DIXON-BONNER	6	0
CURTIS JONES	6	0
JON FLANAGAN	6	0
DANNY WARD	5	0
NECO WILLIAMS	5	0
DOMINIC SOLANKE	4	4
MARKO GRUJIC	4	1
SAM HART	3	0
JORDAN WILLIAMS	3	0
MICH'EL PARKER	3	0
LIAM COYLE	3	0
NATHANIEL CLYNE	2	0
ISAAC CHRISTIE-DAVIES	2	0
ABDI SHARIF	0 (2)	0
RYAN KENT	1	0
LAZAR MARKOVIC	1	0
TRENT ALEXANDER-ARNOLD	1	0
ADAM LALLANA	1	0
TOM CLAYTON	1	0
JOE GOMEZ	1	0
ADAM BOGDAN	1	0
LUIS LONGSTAFF	0 (1)	0
EDVARD TAGSETH	0 (1)	0
GLEN MCAULEY	0 (1)	0
HARVEY WHYTE	0 (1)	0

Academy Player of the Year.

Two U23 team-mates were among other members of Critchley's squad who joined EFL clubs after Christmas to gain further experience in a different environment: Ovie Ejaria to Sunderland and Corey Whelan to Yeovil Town.

With first-teamers picking up minutes on their return from injury and several U18s promoted to bolster the squad in the new year, Critchley used a total of 49 players throughout the campaign.

"The ultimate aim for any Under-23s team is to get players into the first-team and get them into the squad on a regular basis," he says. "So when you see people like Trent [Alexander-Arnold] and Ben [Woodburn] you always want the next ones – the Ovie Ejarias, the Harry Wilsons – can they make that step up? Can they be knocking on the manager's door?

"We just have to keep driving the standards and keep talking to the players about what we think they need to improve upon to get them there. We just concentrate on our process, on improving our training every day and on improving the individuals."

PREMIER LEAGUE 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
ARSENAL	22	13	3	6	48	32	16	42
LIVERPOOL	22	13	1	8	43	27	16	40
LEICESTER	22	11	6	5	36	20	16	39
SWANSEA	22	11	4	7	40	31	9	37
WEST HAM	22	9	4	9	30	32	-2	31
MAN CITY	22	8	6	8	41	31	10	30
EVERTON	22	9	3	10	32	36	-4	30
CHELSEA	22	8	5	9	34	35	-1	29
TOTTENHAM	22	7	5	10	38	48	-10	26
DERBY C	22	7	3	12	32	44	-12	24
SUNDERLAND	22	6	4	12	19	39	-20	22
MAN UNITED	22	4	8	10	22	44	-22	20



"A JOURNEY OF UPS AND DOWNS"

Steven Gerrard leaves the Reds Under-18s in great nick after an exciting 2017/18 season at the helm at home and abroad

Steven Gerrard's first foray into management saw Liverpool's Under-18s finish third last season in the Northern Section of their league.

The Reds had been among the early pacesetters but tailed off in the second half of the season as they blooded a number of Under-16s – a result of various members of the Under-23s squad being sent out on loan, thus necessitating their own coach Neil Critchley to recruit members of the U18s squad to supplement his own side.

Gerrard also took charge of an U19s team which reached the last eight of the UEFA Youth League. The teenage Reds suffered heartache, going out of the tournament on penalties after a 1-1 draw at Manchester City, but Steven was convinced that, ultimately, losing that day will prove to be an invaluable experience for those players.

"They should be really proud of their efforts because they've got to judge themselves on the whole journey, not just the penalty shoot-out," he said. "Football is about a journey of ups and downs; we've had so many ups in this competition that they've enjoyed and they've revelled in and now's the time to feel a bit of pain.

"You've got to use that pain to your advantage. They're going to have many more highs and they'll have some lows as well along the way, that's just the way it is at the top. But I'm so proud of them and I know Neil Critchley is as well."

There was also disappointment in the FA Youth Cup as the Reds bowed out to Arsenal in a fourth-round tie at Anfield after extra-time, while another North London side, Tottenham, ended Liverpool's hopes of success in the Under-18s Premier League Cup at the quarter-

RESULTS 2017/18

Date	Opponent / Scorers	Score
AUGUST		
11	**DERBY COUNTY** Coyle	1-1
20	**BLACKBURN** Coyle, Tagseth, McAuley	3-2
25	**NEWCASTLE** McAuley 2	2-2
SEPTEMBER		
9	**STOKE CITY** Camacho, Jones	2-2
13	**SEVILLA (UYL)** Jones 2, Masterson, Kane	4-0
16	**MIDD'BRO (PL Cup)** Millar 3, Camacho	4-3
22	**EVERTON** Jones 2, Camacho	3-1
26	**SPARTAK M (UYL)** Lewis	1-2
OCTOBER		
17	**MARIBOR (UYL)** Adekanye 2, Kane, Millar	4-1
21	**WEST BROM** Millar 2, Jones, Glatzel, Lewis	5-2
NOVEMBER		
1	**MARIBOR (UYL)** Woodburn, McAuley, Jones	3-0
4	**WEST HAM (PL CUP)** Camacho 2, Clayton, Jones, McAuley, Millar	6-0
18	**MIDDLESBROUGH** Jones 2, Millar, Camacho, Glatzel	5-1
21	**SEVILLA (UYL)** Adekanye, Kane, Millar, Brewster	4-0
24	**SUNDERLAND** Millar, Jones	2-1
28	**MAN CITY** Millar	1-1
DECEMBER		
2	**SUNDERLAND (PL Cup)** Camacho, Lewis 2	3-2
6	**SPARTAK M (UYL)** Johnston, Jones	2-0
9	**MAN UNITED** Millar, McAuley	2-2
13	**HARTLEPOOL (FAYC 3)** Millar 3, McAuley, Jones	5-1
19	**WOLVES** Lewis, McAuley	2-1
JANUARY		
6	**BLACKBURN** Camacho 3, Millar 2, Tagseth	6-1
10	**TOTTENHAM (PL CUP)**	0-4
20	**ARSENAL (FAYC 4)** Jones 2	2-3*
FEBRUARY		
2	**STOKE CITY** McAuley	1-2
10	**EVERTON** McAuley	1-3
21	**MAN UNITED (UYL Ro16)** Woodburn, Camacho	2-0
24	**WOLVES** Savage, Bearne	2-1
MARCH		
10	**DERBY COUNTY** Brookwell	1-0
14	**MAN CITY (UYL Q-F)** Jones	1-1**
17	**MIDDLESBROUGH** Jones 2, Lewis, R Williams, Brookwell, Camacho	6-0
31	**NEWCASTLE** O'Rourke	1-3
APRIL		
7	**WEST BROM** O'Rourke	1-4
14	**SUNDERLAND** McAuley	1-2
20	**MAN UNITED** Millar, Camacho	2-1
28	**MAN CITY**	0-2

UYL = UEFA Youth League PLC = Premier League Cup FAYC = FA Youth Cup *after extra-time **LFC lost 3-2 on penalties









GAMES & GOALS

	APPS	GLS
LIAM MILLAR	23 (8)	18
RAFAEL CAMACHO	25 (5)	12
RHYS WILLIAMS	29	1
CURTIS JONES	28 (1)	17
ELIJAH DIXON-BONNER	23 (4)	0
GLEN MCAULEY	17 (10)	11
ADAM LEWIS	24 (1)	6
EDVARD TAGSETH	21 (2)	3
ABDI SHARIF	15 (8)	0
TOM CLAYTON	20 (2)	0
YASSER LAROUCI	12 (6)	0
MORGAN BOYES	14 (2)	0
ANTHONY GLENNON	15	0
VITELAV JAROS	15	0
LUIS LONGSTAFF	8 (6)	0
KAMIL GRABARA	11	0
JORDAN HUNTER	7 (4)	0
BEN WOODBURN	9	2
PAUL GLATZEL	2 (7)	2
LIAM COYLE	8	0
HERBIE KANE	8	3
GEORGE JOHNSTON	8	1
NECO WILLIAMS	7 (1)	0
BOBBY ADEKANYE	5 (3)	3
CONOR MASTERSON	7	1
REMI SAVAGE	6 (1)	1
NIALL BROOKWELL	3 (3)	2
CAOIMHIN KELLEHER	5	0
JACK BEARNE	4 (1)	0
FIDEL O'ROURKE	2 (3)	2
JACK WALLS	1 (4)	0
DANIEL ATHERTON	4	0
RHIAN BREWSTER	4	1
OKERA SIMMONDS	0 (4)	0
JAKE CAIN	0 (4)	0
DAN GRIFFITHS	0 (2)	0
BEN WILLIAMS	1 (1)	0
LEIGHTON CLARKSON	1 (1)	0
EWAN BECKWITH	1	0
BRIGHT AMOATENG	0 (1)	0

PREMIER LEAGUE U18S NORTH

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
MAN UNITED	22	15	3	4	65	33	32	48
MAN CITY	22	13	3	6	58	34	24	42
LIVERPOOL	22	11	5	6	50	35	15	38
STOKE CITY	22	11	4	7	49	34	15	37
EVERTON	22	11	4	7	51	41	10	37
DERBY	22	9	6	7	45	38	7	33
SUNDERLAND	22	10	2	10	39	44	-5	32
WEST BROM	22	7	5	10	49	57	-8	26
M'BORO	22	6	7	9	37	52	-15	25
NEWCASTLE	22	6	6	10	37	48	-11	24
WOLVES	22	5	4	13	31	53	-22	19
BLACKBURN	22	3	1	18	28	70	-42	10

final stage.

The Reds used a grand total of 40 players at U18s and 19s levels throughout the course of the campaign. Forward Liam Millar figured the most with 31 appearances and he also finished as top scorer with 18 goals, closely followed by attacking midfielder Curtis Jones (17). Strikers Rafael Camacho (12) and Glen McAuley (11) also reached double-figures.

Gerrard admits that he learnt a lot from his season at the helm and is now looking forward to a new challenge north of the border as manager of Rangers. "It's excitement in terms of the challenge that lies ahead and the opportunity for me to progress as a manager – which is what I want to do for many, many years.

"I go this time with the [Liverpool] supporters' blessing and everyone within the club's blessing because they see the opportunity, they see the size of Glasgow Rangers and how difficult it would have been where I was to turn down.

"I've had a magnificent time at the Academy. I've been supported by fantastic coaches who have helped me grow and educated me in terms of getting used to being on the pitch on a daily basis.

"But when Glasgow Rangers come knocking and you're the youth-team coach, it's a huge opportunity. As I say, I'm going with the club's support and the club's backing – and I'm really excited to get started."

More awards for Mo Salah! Last season our Egyptian ace became the first Premier League player to score 40-plus goals in all competitions since whom in 2007/08? **Answer on page 98**

All the latest news as the club and its players strive to make a difference on and off the pitch





PRIZE GUYS AND GALS

Mo steals the show at Reds' annual awards night



Mohamed Salah was named Liverpool's star man for the season as the achievements of the first team, Academy, Ladies, legends and fans were celebrated at the 2018 LFC Players' Awards at Anfield..

The no11, who scored 44 goals in 52 appearances in 2017/18, was voted Player of the Season by both the fans – in an online vote on liverpoolfc.com – and by his team-mates at Melwood.

The Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to the man who has played the most matches in the club's history, Ian Callaghan, while the 1978 European Cup-winning Reds side were acknowledged with the Outstanding Team Achievement Award on the 40th anniversary of their triumph over FC Bruges at Wembley.

Trent Alexander-Arnold's excellent season, which included 12 games and two goals throughout the Reds' run to the Champions League final, was rewarded with the Young Player of the Season accolade, and Harry Wilson claimed the Academy Player of the Season honour.

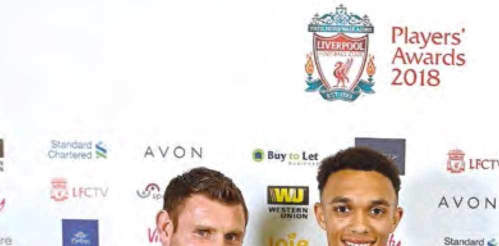
Goal of the Season – shortlisted by supporters and decided by an LFC panel – went to Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain for the midfielder's stunning strike during the Champions League win against Manchester City at Anfield in April.

Gemma Bonner and Sophie Ingle were presented with the Ladies Player of the Season and Ladies Players' Player of the Season awards respectively.

And there were special accolades for the Fans Supporting Foodbanks initiative, in the form of the Bill Shankly Community Award, and New South Wales as the official Supporters' Club of the Season.











Liverpool Ladies on the red carpet







Some of the 1978 European Cup-winning Reds honoured



Roy Evans and Ian Callaghan






Academy winner Harry Wilson





City metro mayor Steve Rotheram and wife Sandra







New South Wales Supporters Club were winners






Club CEO Peter Moore and wife Diane



2018 LFC Players' Awards winners

- Player of the Season: **Mohamed Salah**
- Players' Player of the Season: **Mohamed Salah**
- Ladies Player of the Season: **Gemma Bonner**
- Ladies Players' Player of the Season: **Sophie Ingle**
- Young Player of the Season: **Trent Alexander-Arnold**
- Academy Player of the Season: **Harry Wilson**
- Goal of the Season: **Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain versus Manchester City (April 4)**
- Bill Shankly Community Award: **Fans Supporting Foodbanks**
- Lifetime Achievement Award: **Ian Callaghan**
- Outstanding Team Achievement Award: **1978 European Cup-winning team**
- Supporters' Club of the Season: **New South Wales**


Striking legend John Aldridge




Reds fan Clive Owen with fellow guest


Jess Clarke and Kate Longhurst


Fans Supporting Foodbanks with their award from the club


Gemma Bonner and Sophie Ingle

Mo's other major awards

- Golden Boot
- PFA Player of the Year
- PFA Team of the Year (one of the selected XI)
- FWA Footballer of the Year
- 3 x Premier League Player of the Month (November, February, March)









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OVER-50S WALK ON

Reds legend Alan steps out at Anfield again with mature residents for Walking Football fun





Liverpool FC's Red Neighbours Walking Football team had an unforgettable day recently as they stepped out on to the famous Anfield turf alongside LFC legend Alan Kennedy.

A total of 44 local residents – all regular participants of the Walking Football programme – played a series of matches during a special afternoon at the home of the Reds.

Walking Football is designed to encourage over-50s to engage in physical activity in a fun and social setting. The initiative has gone from strength to strength, with the initial monthly meetings now running twice-weekly at Anfield Sports and Community Centre (ASCC).

Former player Alan is a regular face at the ASCC sessions, and the ex-defender headed back out on to the Anfield pitch with his Walking Football team-mates for the end-of-season tournament.

Bill Bygroves, LFC club chaplain and Red Neighbours team-member, said: "The Walking Football sessions are as much about getting local people socialising as are they about keeping active.

"It's a chance for the retired members of our community to continue enjoying the sport they love while also making new friends. Our oldest participant is 91 and we have a few in their 80s, too. It's fantastic to see people of that generation getting back into football.

"Today has been brilliant – to kick a football on the pitch at Anfield is the realisation of a childhood dream for many of our players."

Walking Football, alongside Walking Netball, is part-funded by the FA through the Community Shield Fund and sessions run on Tuesdays and Fridays at ASCC – for more information follow **@Red_Neighbours** on Twitter.

The Red Neighbours programme supports local residents and schools in the Anfield community, focusing on four key areas: food poverty and education; support for the elderly community; encouraging a physically active community; and creating memorable experiences for young people.















Red Neighbours

We are passionate about our community. Our official club charity, LFC Foundation, delivers a wide range of programmes and partnerships to create life-changing opportunities for children and young people. We also work with local residents, community groups and schools in and around the Anfield area, as part of our Red Neighbours programme, focusing on supporting some of the key issues in Anfield including: food poverty and education, the elderly, getting the community physically-active and creating memorable experiences for young people.











Creating life changing opportunities for children and young people

Donate today

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#ivefound

The LFC Foundation is the official charity of Liverpool Football Club
An independent charity registered in England & Wales with The Charity Commission,
Charity Number: 1096572. Registered Office: Anfield Road, Liverpool, England L4 0TH.



LFC's Billy Hogan with Bill Winters of Standard Chartered (left) and Gini Wijnaldum (below) in action during last season's Seeing Is Believing fixture

STRIKING PARTNERS

Four more years for Liverpool FC and Standard Chartered – you can put your shirt on it

Main sponsor Standard Chartered will continue to adorn the front of the famous red jersey for the next five years.

The renewal of the deal will see the club's relationship with the bank extend to the end of the 2022/23 season. The partnership originally began in 2010, making it the second longest shirt sponsorship deal in the history of the club.

In that time Standard Chartered has reached over 37 million people across LFC platforms, highlighting the United Nations' Global Goals programme. It's also had over 4,000 children participate in its soccer clinics, and its annual 'Perfect Match' game – where LFC players swap the SCB logo on their shirts for the 'Seeing is Believing' logo – has helped to raise almost 500,000 US dollars (around £375,000) to tackle avoidable blindness.

In addition the partnership has reached almost 140,000 Reds supporters at LFC World, an interactive experience presented by Standard Chartered which began in 2016 and brings fans around the world a little closer to Anfield. LFC World has visited seven destinations across the last two seasons: Hong Kong, Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Shanghai, Mumbai, Jakarta and most recently Dubai.

Standard Chartered has also donated nearly 500 match tickets to the local community through Liverpool FC's Red Neighbours programme over the last two seasons.

Billy Hogan, LFC's managing director and chief commercial officer, says: "As a club we're very proud to have Standard Chartered renew their relationship for another four years.

"Our connection runs deep. It means more than just sponsorship: from the outset it has been about working together with the club and our communities and supporters around the world.

"Importantly it also means we are able to support our ambitions on the pitch and compete with the best in the world. We have enjoyed many highlights in this relationship so far and I look forward to many more."

Bill Winters, Standard Chartered's group chief executive, adds: "Liverpool FC is one of the world's best-known football clubs and we are proud to be associated with them.

"It is a fantastic club that shares many of our values and is hugely popular across our global footprint.

"Our partnership has provided valuable support to the charitable initiatives close to our hearts and has helped us to further engage with our clients and staff as well as with LFC fans.

"We are excited to be able to continue this partnership, and look forward to building on our successful relationship."



TEKELA

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new balance

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Red Neighbours

PITCH PERFECT!

Young local supporters invited to model brand new home kit on the hallowed turf at Anfield

Liverpool Football Club and New Balance have donated 125 new 2018/19 home jerseys and pairs of trainers to local children from schools in and around the Anfield community – the next generation of Reds fans.

The children were among the first in the world to get their hands on the new shirts which only became available in stores and online on Friday 11 May 2018.

The donation marked the end of LFC's 125th anniversary year which has seen a whole host of activities within the community. Red Neighbours, the club's local community programme, worked with the 25 schools based around Anfield and invited the kids to Anfield to collect their shirts and trainers.

Wearing their new shirt and trainers, the youngsters had the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity of walking out onto the famous pitch at Anfield for a special commemorative photograph.

Teacher Kieran Baillie from Florence Melly Community Primary School said: "We're extremely grateful to both Liverpool FC and New Balance for these amazing gifts. This is a day that the children will never forget."

The kit launched the new "This Means More" LFC campaign for 2018/19 which encapsulates the feelings that all Reds fans around the world share about the club and how they feel when they pull on the shirt.

For more information please visit **www.store.liverpoolfc.com.**



ANFIELD: AT THE ART OF THINGS

Giant mural created by local schoolchildren commemorates the 125 year of celebrations



Liverpool FC and local schoolchildren recently unveiled a giant mural at Anfield commemorating the club's 125th anniversary.

The large-scale mural, which has been permanently installed onto the Kenny Dalglish Stand, was created by hundreds of children from 25 local schools that neighbour the world-famous stadium. All of the schools involved worked closely with the club's Red Neighbours programme.

Liverpool FC commissioned local artist David Andrews to collaborate with the schools to create the canvas timeline artwork that reflects the club's 125-year history. He said: "It's an honour to know that the mural will be displayed at Anfield for all to see, for many years to come. The schoolchildren were brilliant, as were their illustrations – they should be extremely proud of what they've achieved."

David hosted art workshops at each of the 25 schools, during which LFC's museum curator Stephen Done taught the youngsters about the history of the club. They allocated each school a specific five-year period, from the 125-year history, on which they should focus their piece









of artwork. One design from each school was chosen to be incorporated into the timeline, ensuring that the full 125 years were represented.

When assembling the full-sized mural, David scanned in a selection of the most poignant drawings and used a graphics tablet to add colour to the mural and ensure that it had a uniform style throughout and appeared in comic-book style.

Karen Hutchings, head teacher at New Park Primary School, said: "The students loved the art workshops, and learning about how the club and the Anfield area has evolved in the last 125 years.

"This is the first time they've seen the final artwork, which combines pieces from all the local schools. They are so pleased with it and can't wait to show their friends and family."

Fans can find out more about the 125-year history of Liverpool Football Club at **liverpoolfc.com/history/timeline**.



WHAT'S IN



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MENS GREY TRAINING SHORT SLEEVE JERSEY 18/19 (MT006G) £35 ALSO AVAILABLE IN RED



MENS RED PEPPER TRAINING WALK OUT JACKET 18/19 (MJ002R) £60



MENS BLACK TRAINING PRESENTATION PANTS 18/19 (MP039B) £35 ALSO AVAILABLE IN GREY



JUNIOR BLACK TRAINING PRESENTATION PANTS 18/19 (JP039B) £30 ALSO AVAILABLE IN GREY



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JUNIOR RED MARL LEISURE TEE 18/19 (JT033CM) £20



JUNIOR WHITE LEISURE ESSENTIAL POLO 18/19 (JT043W) £30
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In remembrance of the 39 supporters
who lost their lives at the Heysel Stadium

May 29th 1985

IN MEMORIA E AMICIZIA

In Memoria e Amicizia
In Memory and Friendship:

Rocco Acerra
Bruno Balli
Alfons Bos
Giancarlo Bruschera
Andrea Casula
Giovanni Casula
Nino Cerullo
Willy Chielens
Giuseppina Conti
Dirk Daeninckx
Dionisio Fabbro
Jacques François
Eugenio Gagliano
Francesco Galli
Giancarlo Gonnelli
Alberto Guarini
Giovacchino Landini
Roberto Lorentini
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Giuseppe Spolaore
Mario Spanu
Tarcisio Venturin
Jean Michel Walla
Claudio Zavaroni

Rest In Peace –
You'll Never Walk Alone

LFC marks 33rd anniversary of Heysel Stadium Disaster

On Tuesday 29 May 2018 Liverpool FC remembered the 39 football fans who lost their lives at Heysel Stadium in Belgium 33 years ago.

The disaster occurred before the European Cup final between Liverpool and Juventus on 29 May 1985, when events in Block Z of the stadium tragically led to the deaths of 39 people – mostly Juventus supporters – and left hundreds more injured.

As a mark of respect to those who died, a floral tribute was placed aside the Heysel memorial plaque on the Kenny Dalglish Stand at Anfield by the club's chief executive, Peter Moore, who said: "We will always remember those who lost their lives on this day at Heysel and use this moment to pay our respects.

"Heysel is a tragedy that will never be forgotten, and today Liverpool Football Club honours all of those impacted."

Flags across all the club's sites were flown at half-mast throughout the day and access to the Heysel memorial plaque was made available to the public via the Anfield Road entrance to the Kenny Dalglish Stand.



QUIZ ANSWERS: LIVERPOOL p11: The Run for the 96 takes place in the shadow of Anfield and Goodison Park at Stanley Park; **FOOTBALL p21:** Prior to Fabinho's arrival, the last Liverpool player to join the club from AS Monaco was defender John Arne Riise in June 2001; **CLUB p81:** Before Mo Salah's exploits last season, the last Premier League player to score more than 40 goals in all competitions was Cristiano Ronaldo with the Portuguese attacker netting 42 times for Manchester United: 31 in the Premier League, eight in the UEFA Champions League and three in the FA Cup.





















































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